

The cover art features two main characters. In the upper left, a young boy with short brown hair and green eyes is shown in a dynamic pose, wearing a dark blue vest over a white shirt. He holds a blue mechanical device in his right hand and a golden staff with a pink gem in his left. In the lower right, a girl with long blue hair and a black witch's hat is depicted. She wears a white shirt under a dark blue dress and has a confident expression. The background is a bright yellow with floating blue crystals and a large blue sphere in the top right. The title 'Mushoku Tensei' is written in large, stylized letters, with 'Mushoku' in black and 'Tensei' in a gold gradient. Below it, the subtitle 'jobless reincarnation' is written in a smaller, black, sans-serif font.

Mushoku Tensei

jobless reincarnation

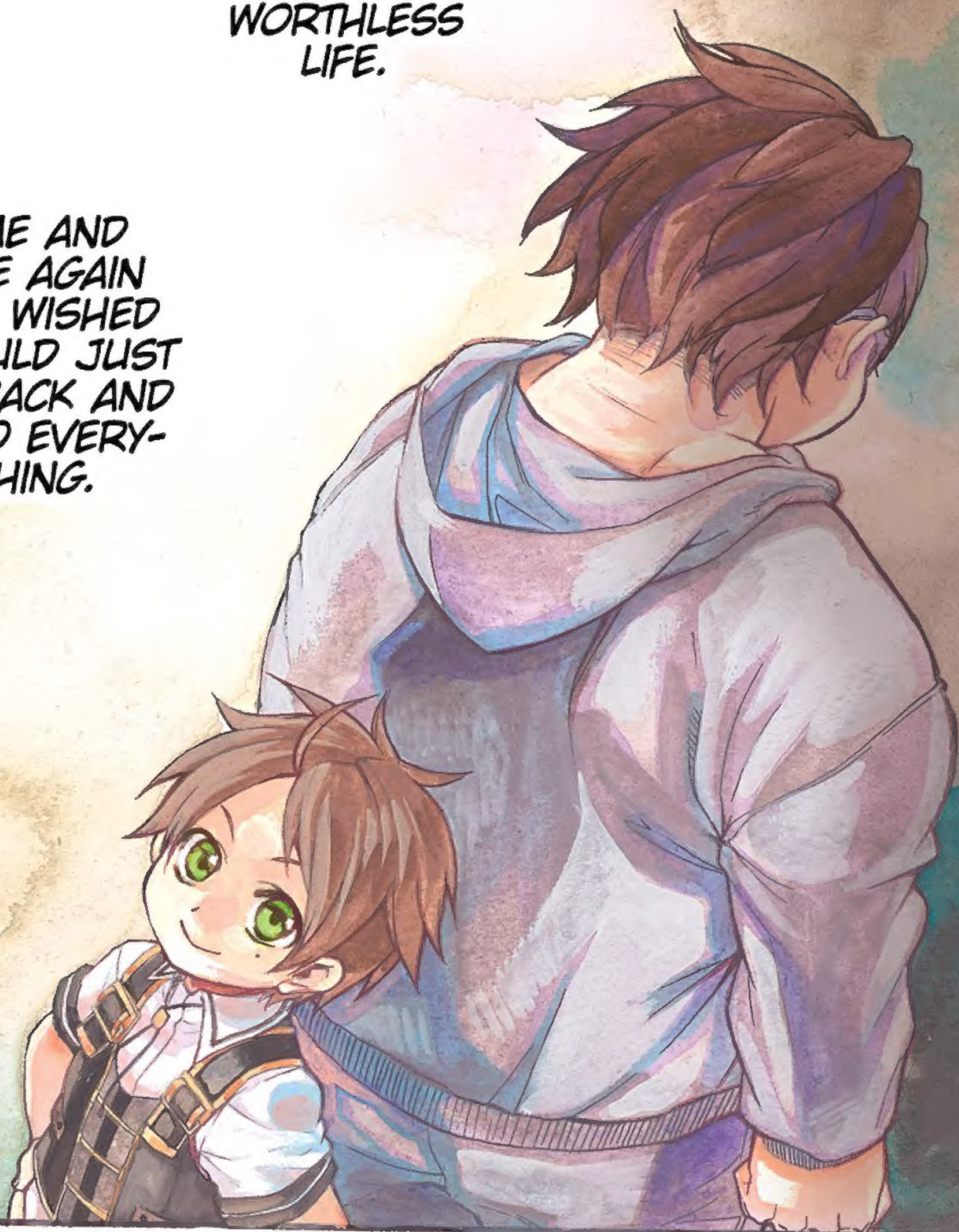
art by
FUJIKAWA YUKA
story by
RIFUJIN NA MAGONOTE

1

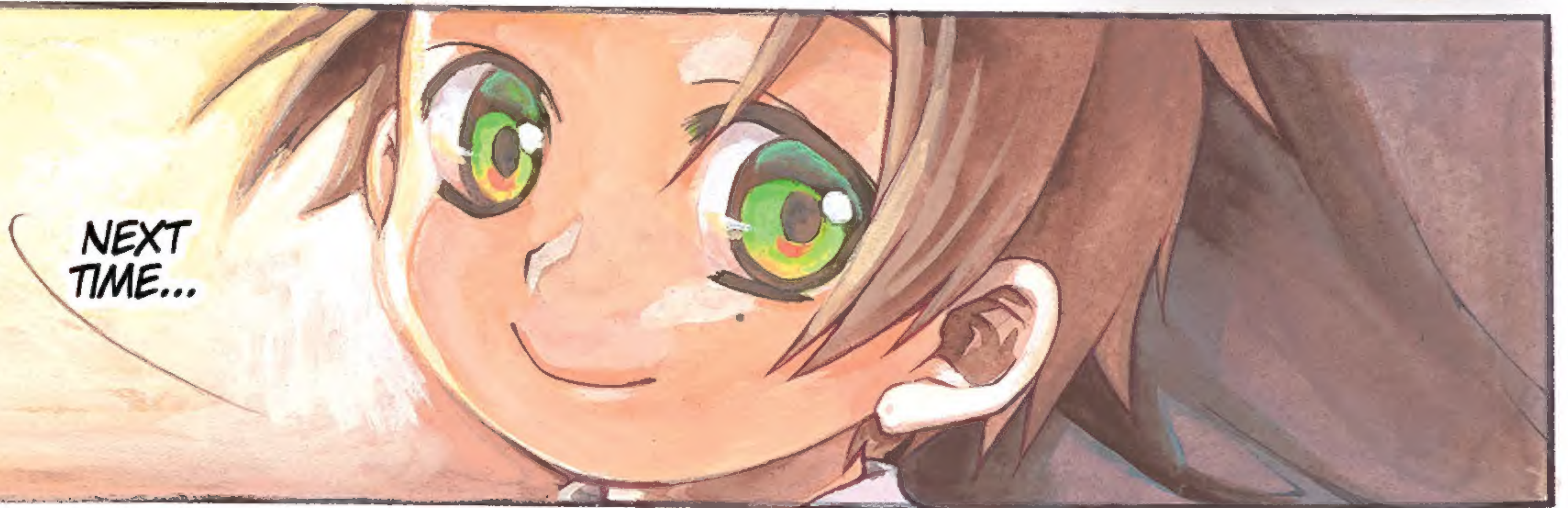
I HAVE
LIVED A
WORTHLESS
LIFE.

TIME AND
TIME AGAIN
I'VE WISHED
I COULD JUST
GO BACK AND
REDO EVERY-
THING.

THAT'S
WHY NOW
I'M GOING
TO GO AND
LIVE MY LIFE
TO THE
FULLEST.



NEXT
TIME...



I WON'T
HAVE ANY
REGRETS!





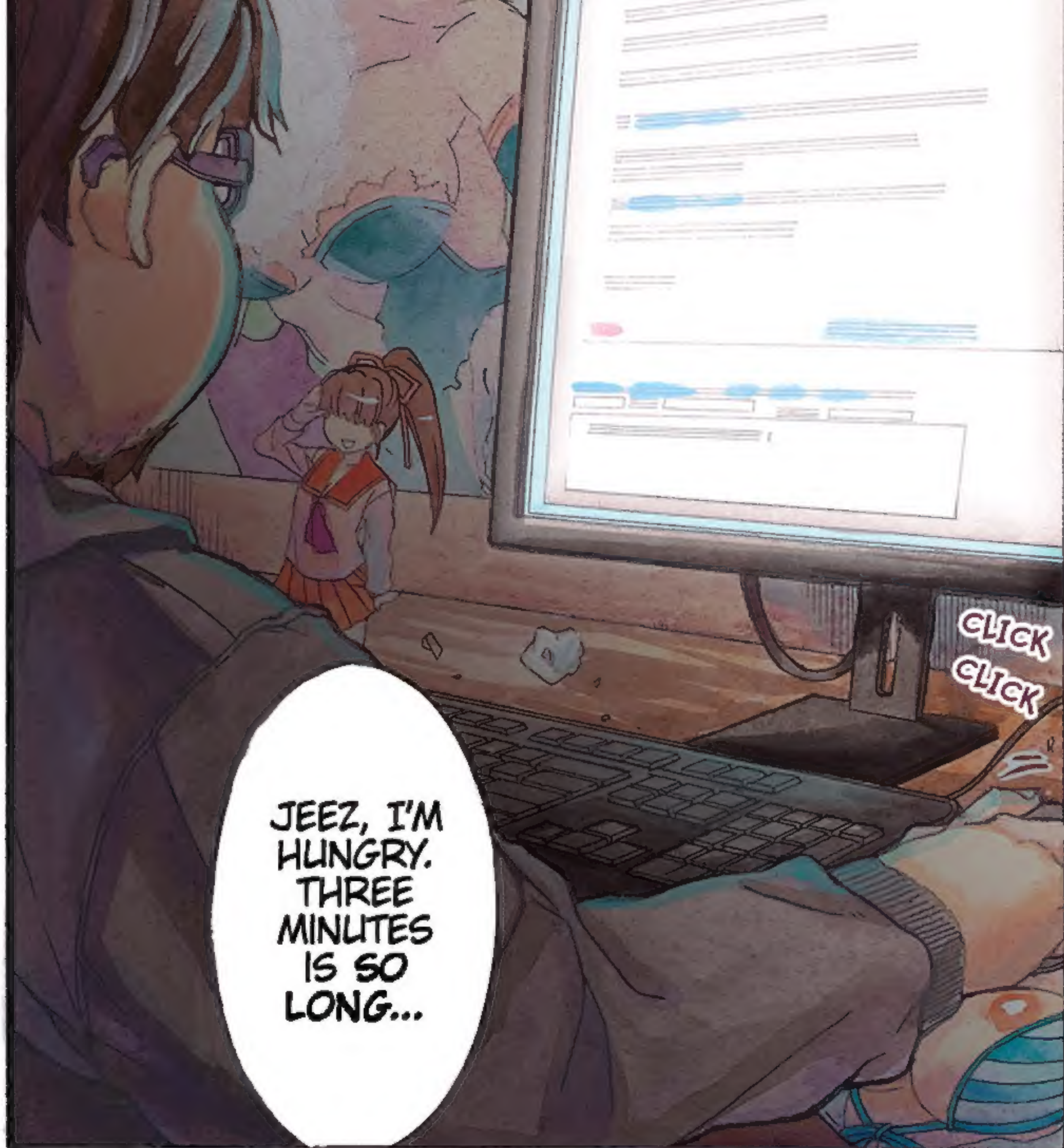
Mushoku Tensei

jobless reincarnation

art by FUJIKAWA YUKA
story by RIFUJIN NA MAGONOTE
original character design by SHIROTAKA

Chapter 1

COULD IT BE?
AN ALTERNATE UNIVERSE!



JEEZ, I'M
HUNGRY.
THREE
MINUTES
IS SO
LONG...

208: Anonymous

No longer will the shackles of the
working world hold me in!

209: Anonymous

i was fired from my job lol this is
the end for me haha...

210: Anonymous

>>209

Tough luck! Ha ha!

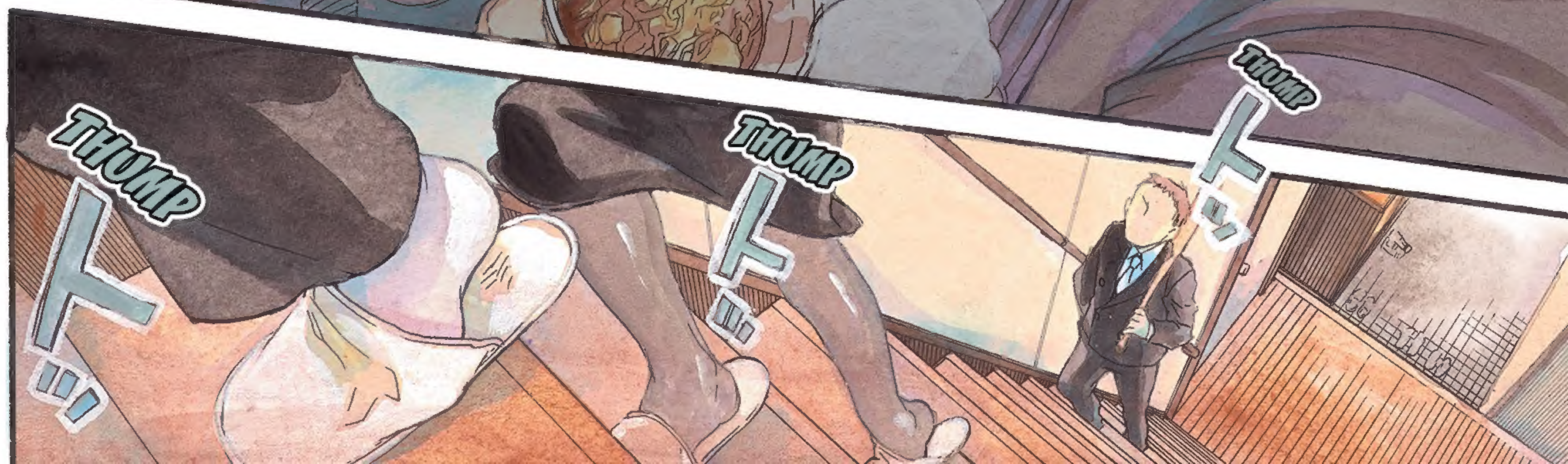
Welcome to the world of the
NEETs~! lololololol

211: Anonymous

I live off my inheritance, though--
being a "home-security guard" is the
best. ;)



OH!







WHAT THE...?

BUT IT WAS YOU WHO--!

COME ON, YOU'RE THE ONE THAT--

WHAT'S WITH YOU, GIRL?!

NO, LET ME GO!



IS IT A LOVERS' QUARREL?



NOW, NOW...

I'M FINE, JUST LEAVE ME ALONE!

IF I HAD TRIED HARDER BACK THEN, MAYBE I COULD'VE GONE OUT WITH HER, OR SOMETHING...

THAT REMINDS ME... I USED TO HAVE A REALLY CUTE FRIEND WHEN I WAS IN MIDDLE SCHOOL.

...WELL, PROBABLY NOT.







WHAT A
PATHETIC
END TO A
PATHETIC
LIFE...

DAMN...



MY
LAST ACT...
SAVING
SOMEONE
WITH A LIFE
WORTH
WAY MORE
THAN MINE.



I MUST
LOOK
LIKE AN
IDIOT.



START
OVER
AGAIN...

AAH, IF
ONLY I
COULD
JUST...

WAAH!

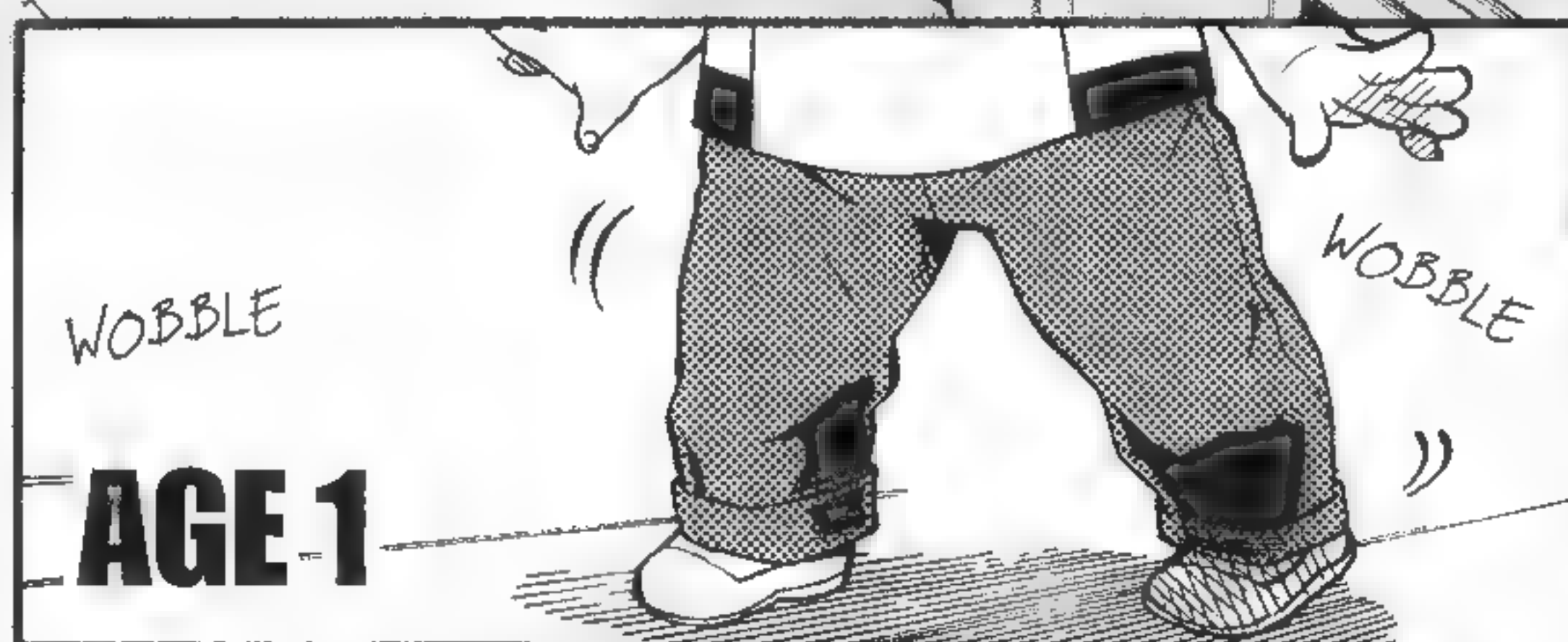
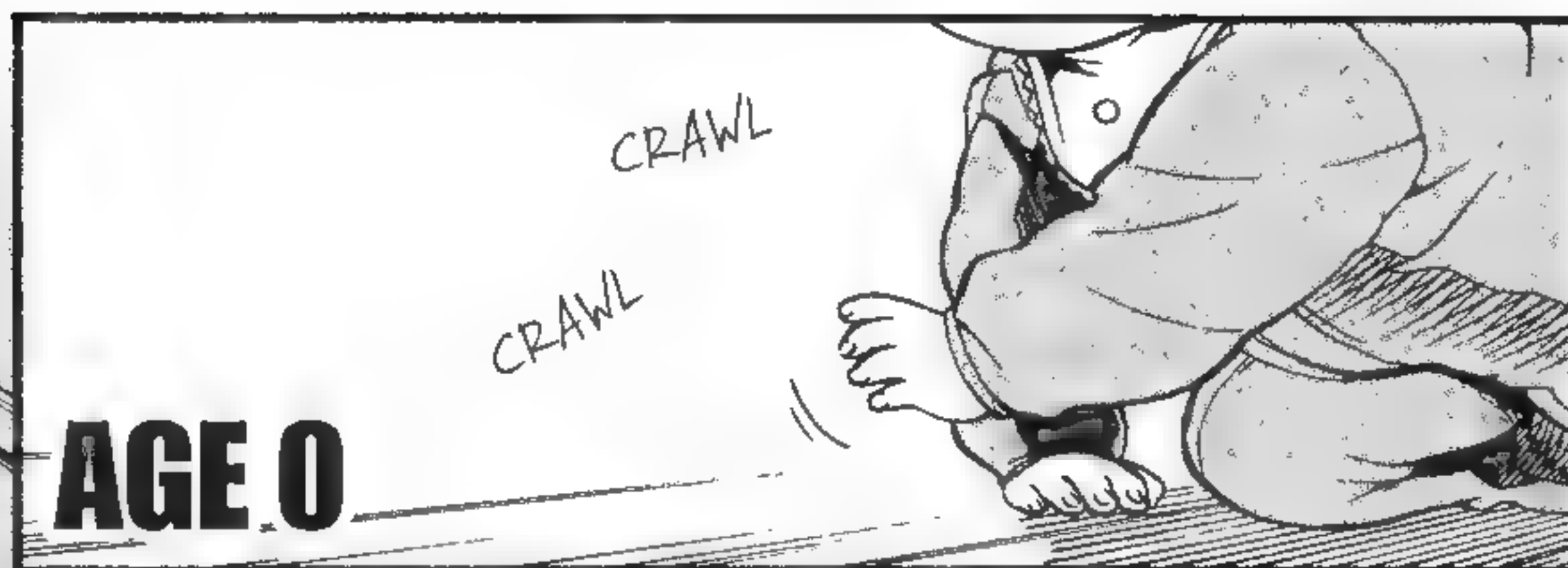
WAH!

ONCE
MORE...

HUH?



WHAT
IS THIS
PLACE...?

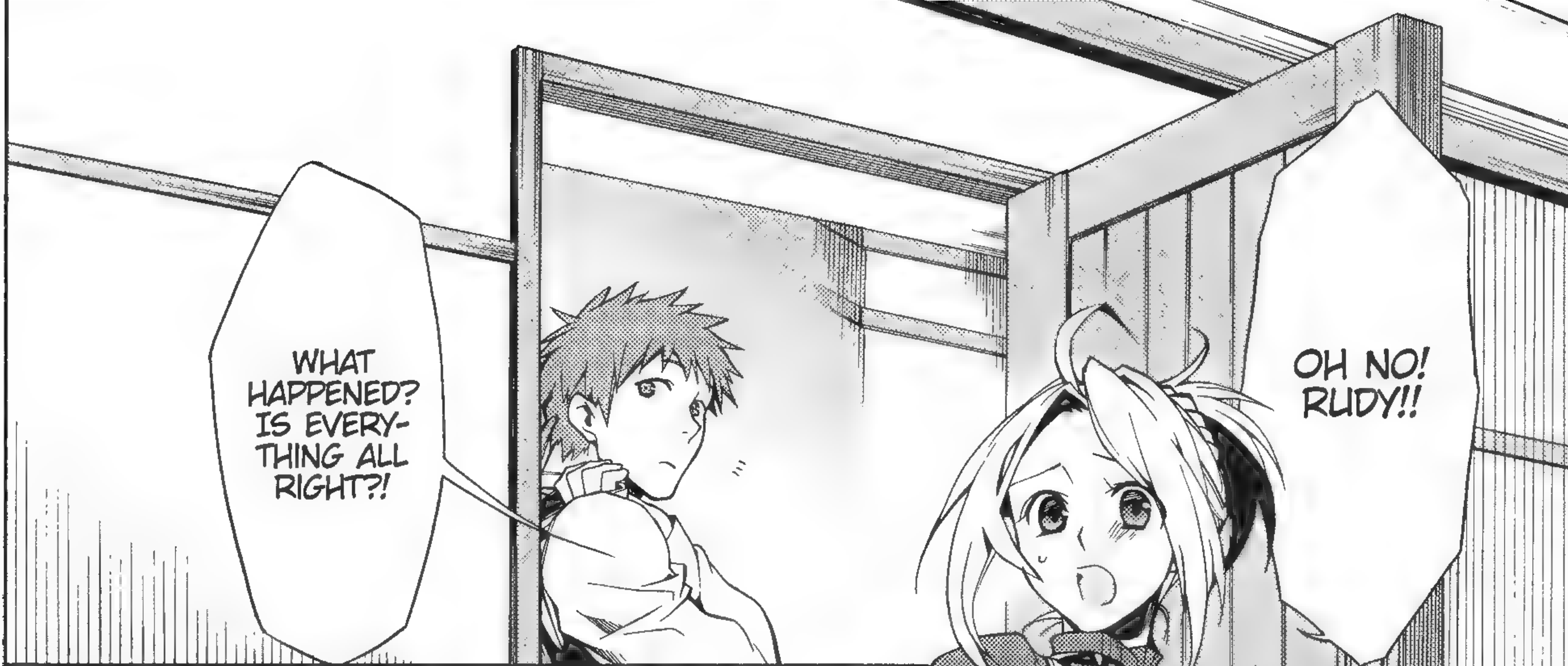


CRAAASH

AH!

RUDY?!

O-
OUCH...



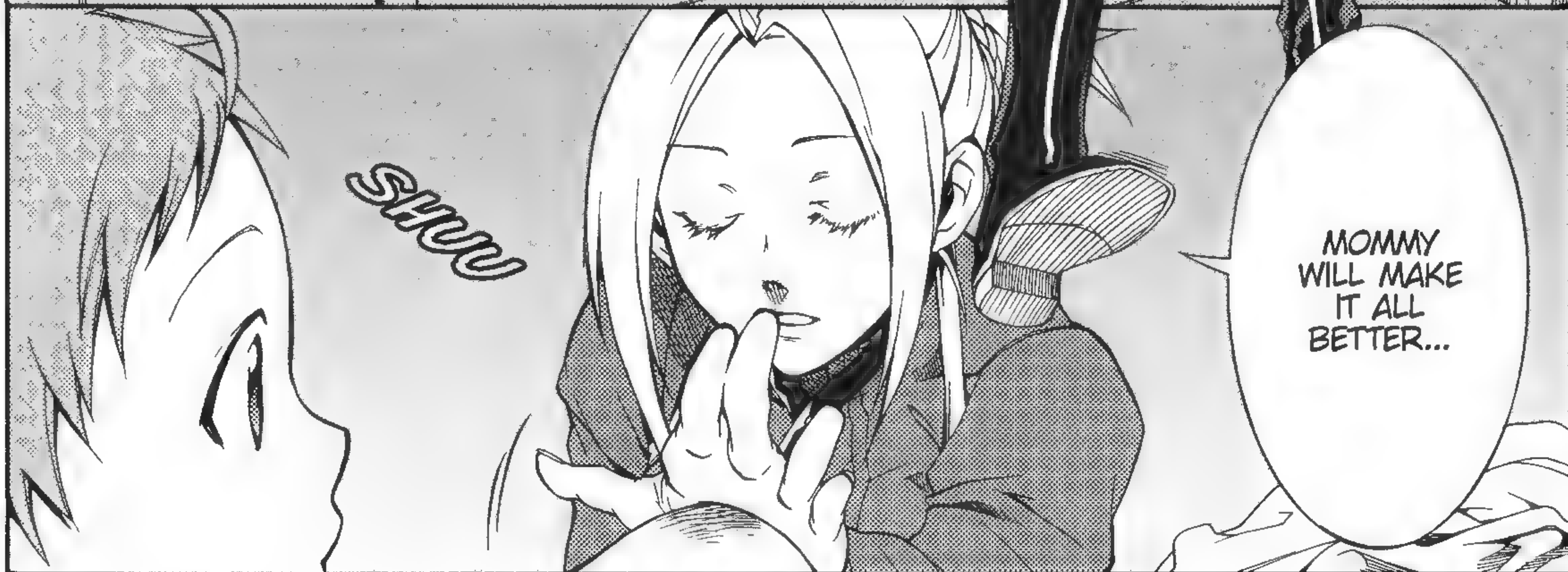
WHAT
HAPPENED?
IS EVERY-
THING ALL
RIGHT?!

OH NO!
RUDY!!



SHOW IT
TO ME...
OH NO!
DOES IT
HURT?

DADDY
PALIL,
MOMMY
ZENITH!



MOMMY
WILL MAKE
IT ALL
BETTER...



...BESTOW
THE
STRENGTH
TO RISE
AGAIN UNTO
THOSE
WHO HAVE
SUFFERED.

I CALL
UPON THE
POWER OF
THE GODS.
GRANT
ME YOUR
AID...



PWSH!!

HEALING!



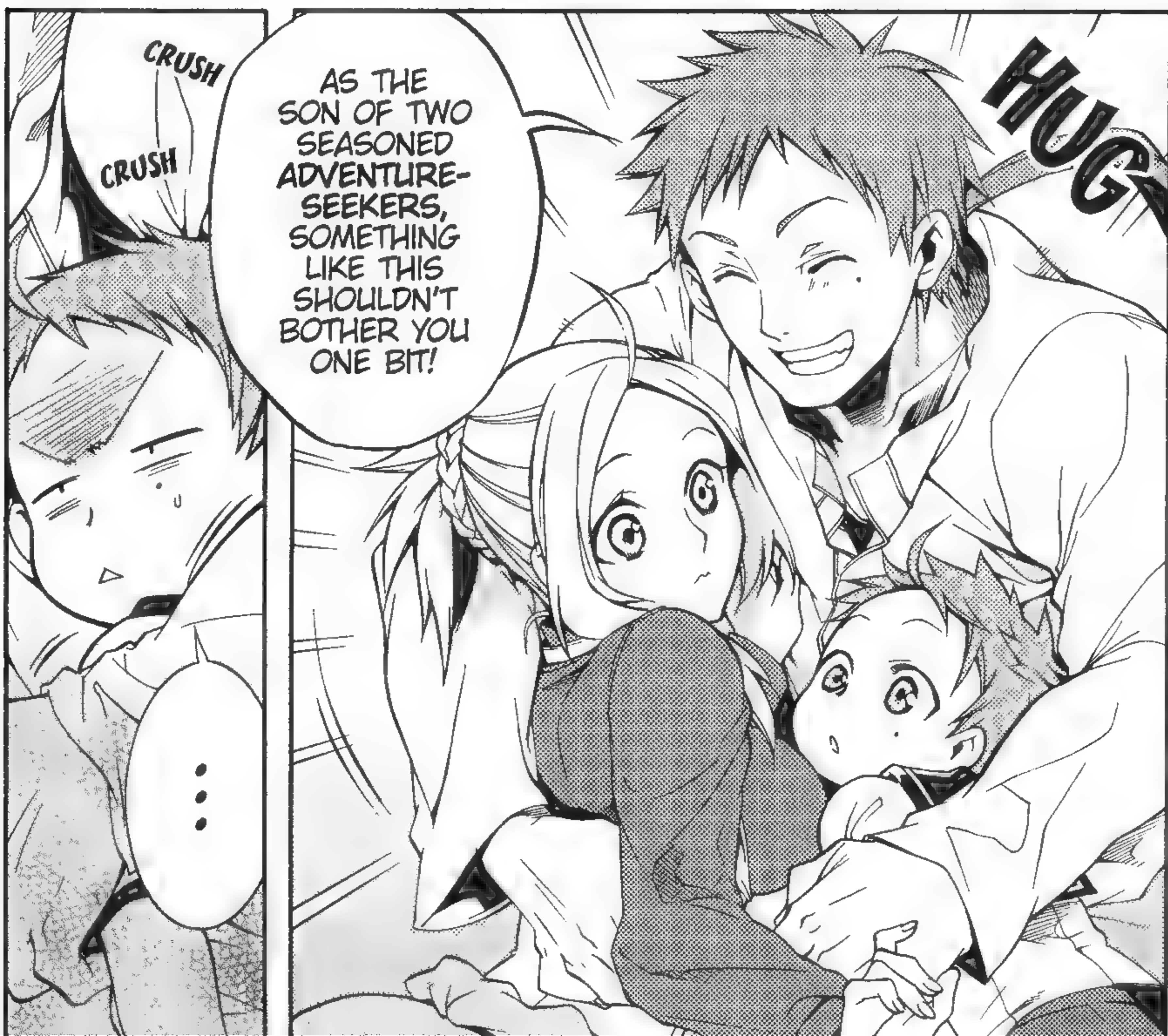
EE

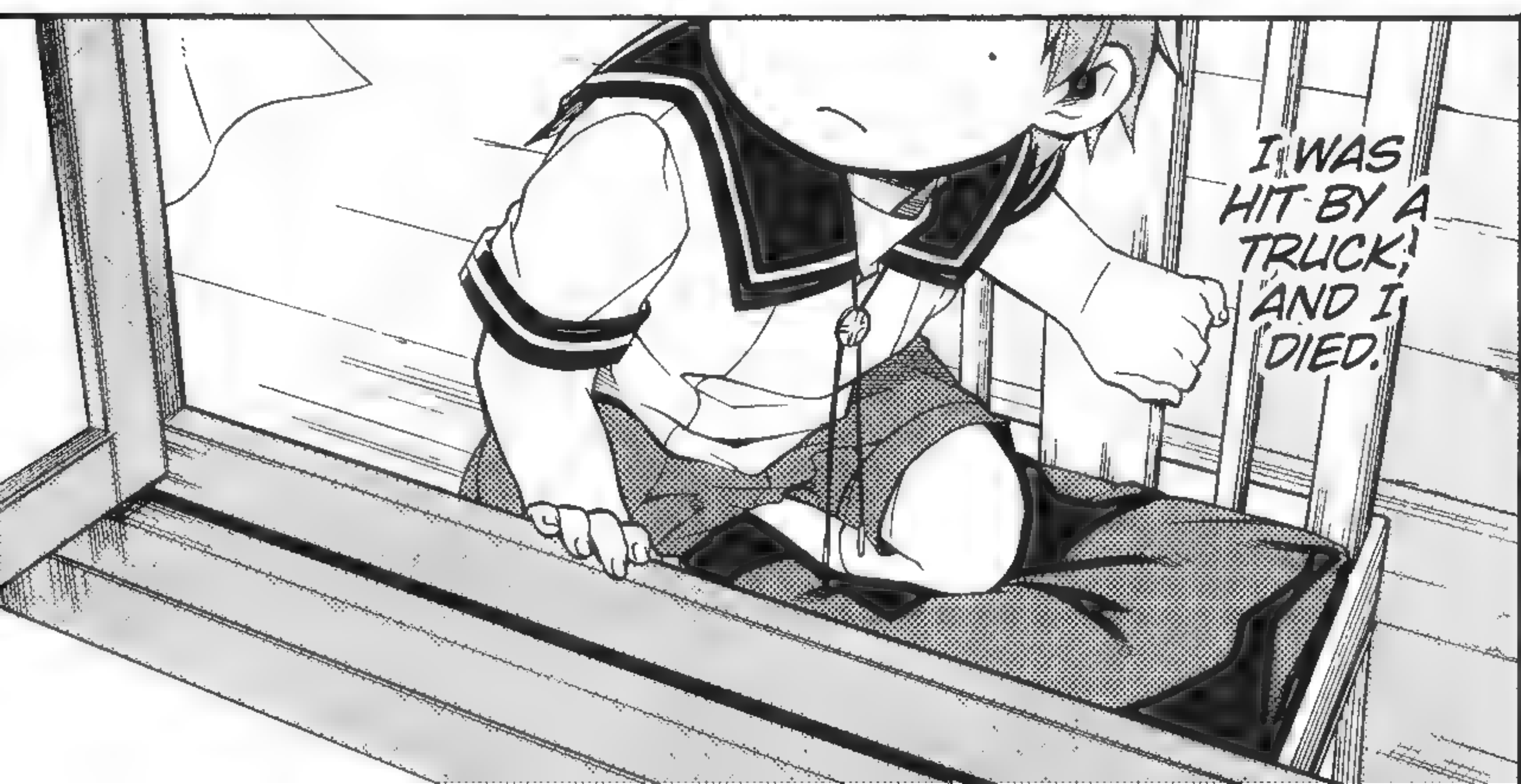
EE..

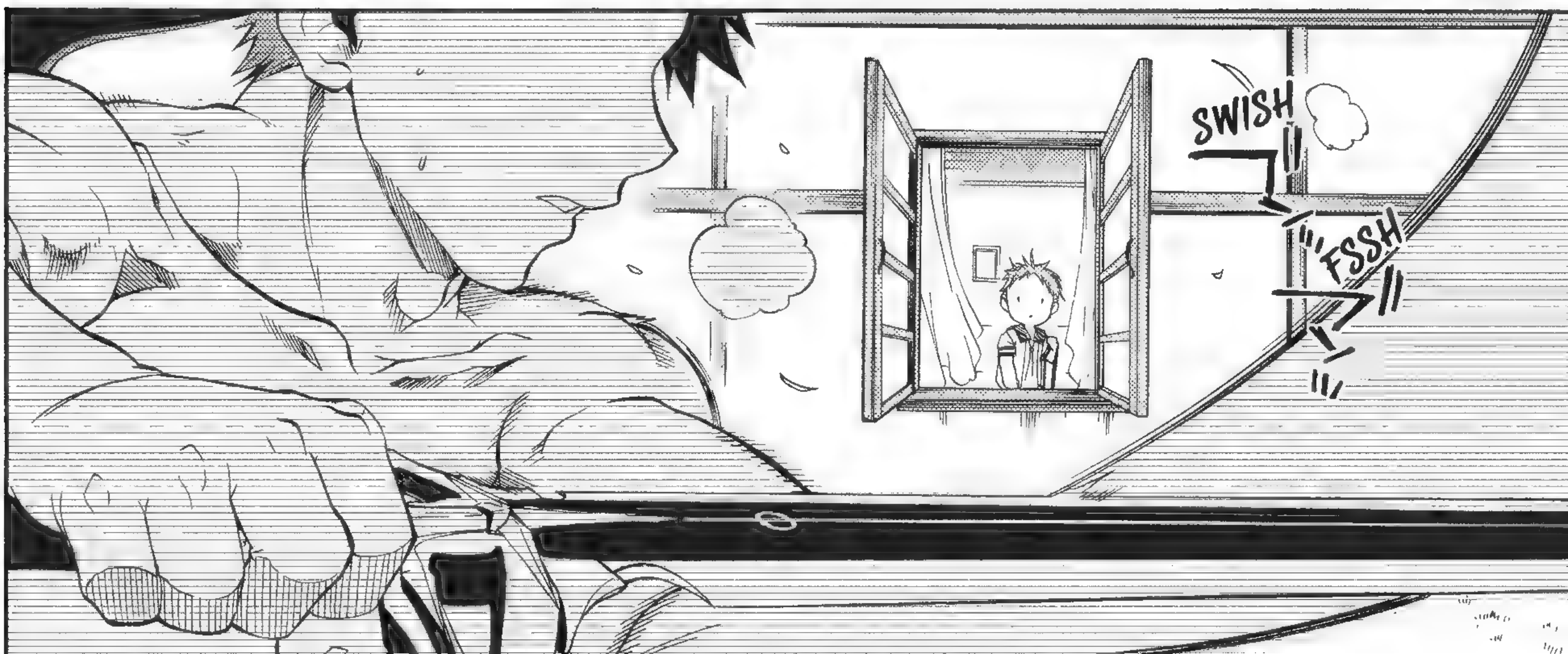


PWE

PWE











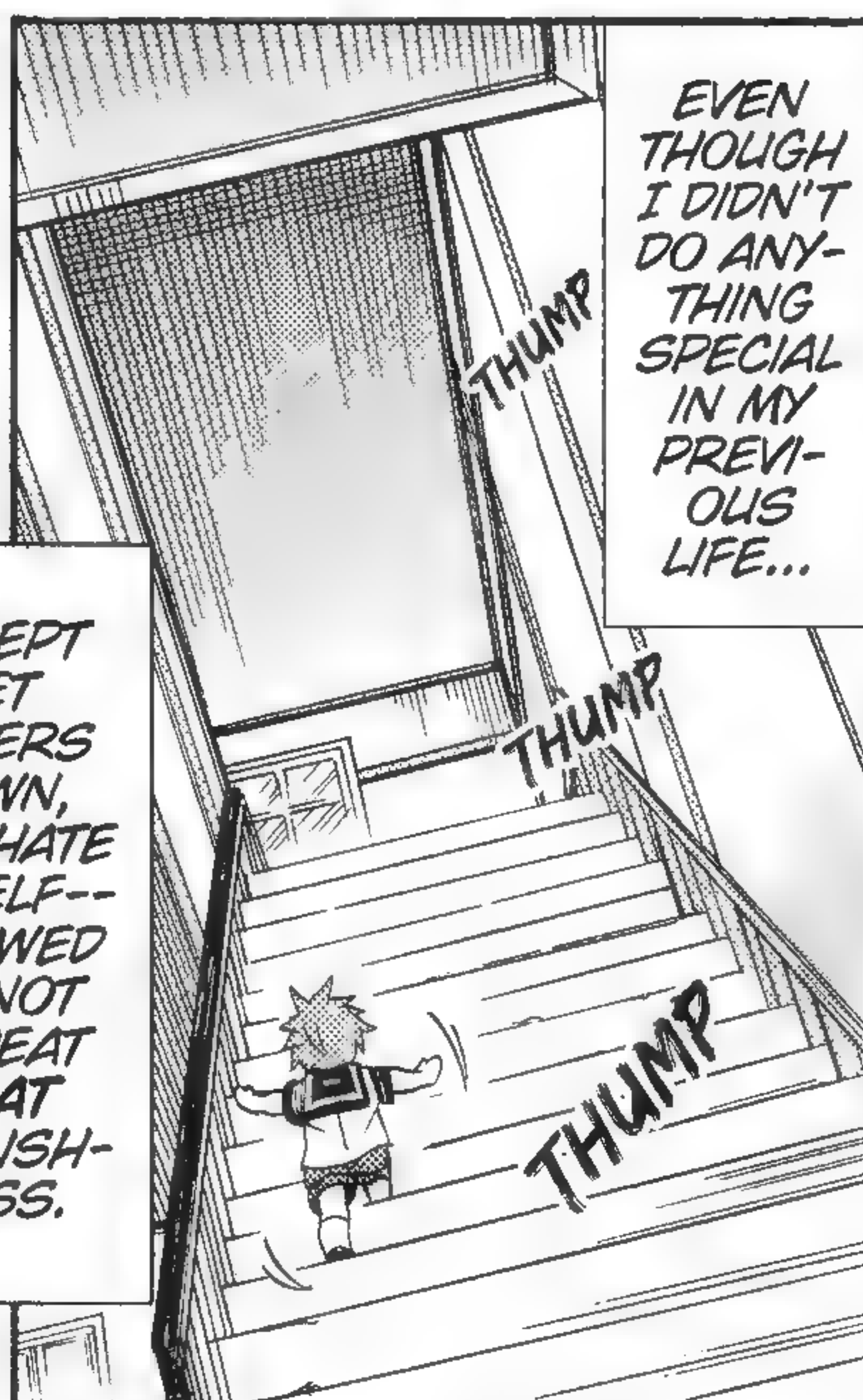
BUT
HERE
THERE
ARE
SWORDS...

AND
MAGIC...

MY NEW
LIFE IN A
PARALLEL
WORLD.

I STILL
HAVE ALL THE
MEMORIES
OF MY
PREVIOUS
LIFE.





EVEN
THOUGH
I DIDN'T
DO ANY-
THING
SPECIAL
IN MY
PREVI-
OUS
LIFE...

EXCEPT
LET
OTHERS
DOWN,
AND HATE
MYSELF--
I VOWED
TO NOT
REPEAT
THAT
FOOLISH-
NESS.

I'VE
BEEN
DOING
SECRET
TRAINING
EVERY
DAY,
MORNING
AND
NIGHT.

THAT'S
WHY...



AND BY
"TRAINING,"
I MEAN...



THE
FLOW OF
THE COOL,
CLEAN
STREAM,
HERE AND
NOW...

HEAVENLY
ONE, BLESS
US WITH
THE DIVINE
PROTECTION
OF WATER...



...THAT'S
RIGHT! I'M
LEARNING
MAGIC!!

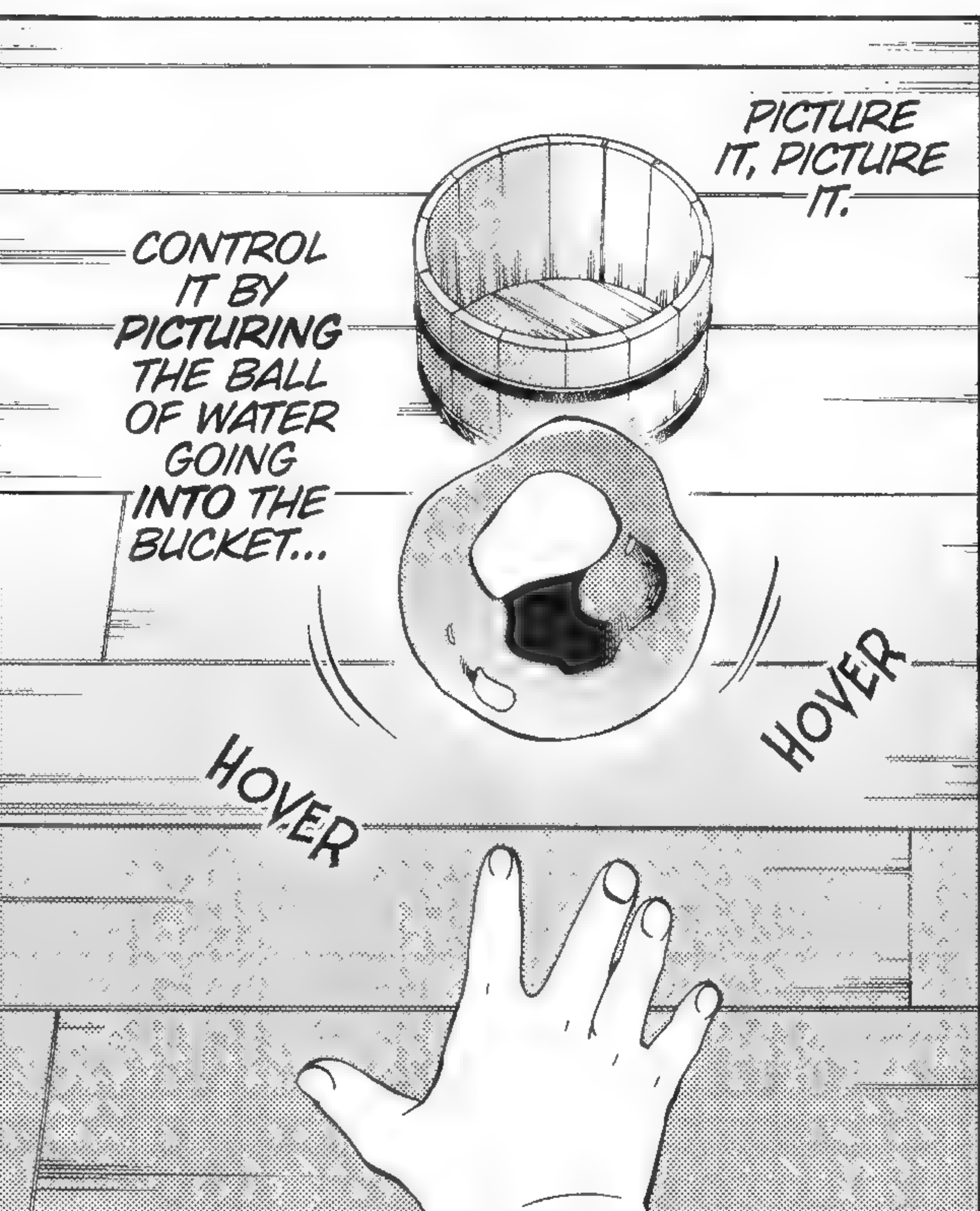
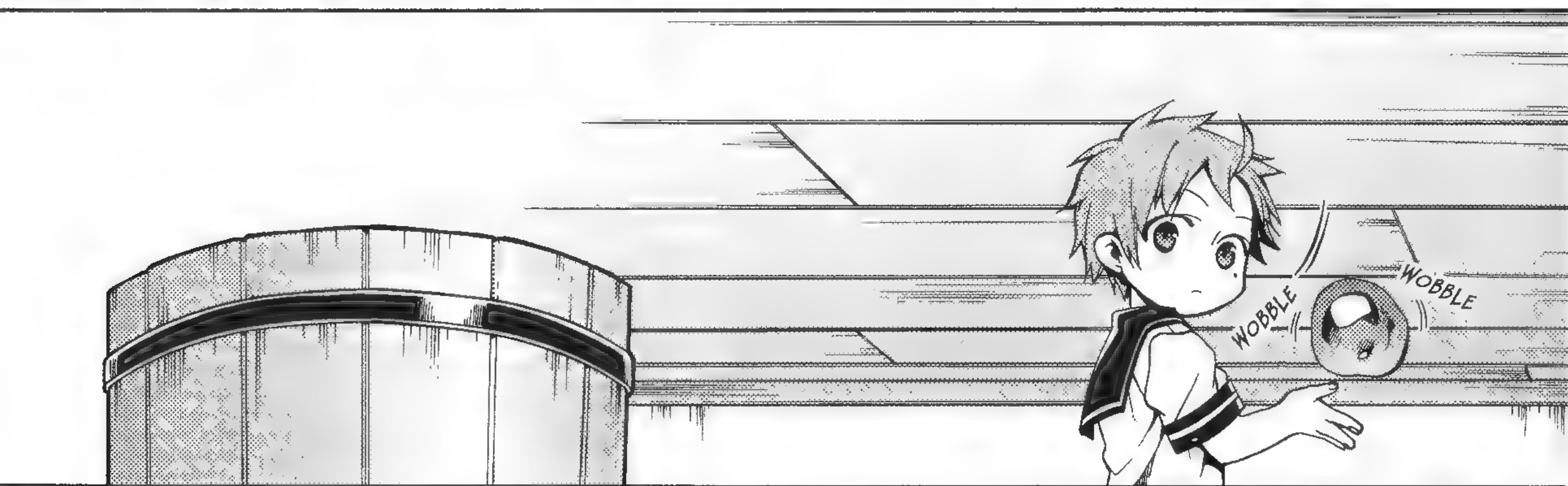
ALL
RIGHT!



MAKING
A WATER
BALL
WITHOUT
CHANTING
THE
SPELL!



OKAY,
THE NEXT
STEP IS...



CONTROL
IT BY
PICTURING
THE BALL
OF WATER
GOING
INTO THE
BUCKET...

PICTURE
IT, PICTURE
IT.

HOVER

HOVER



WOBBLE

ZSHUUU



IN MY
PREVIOUS
LIFE, I WOULD
HAVE LOST ALL
MOTIVATION
TO TRY AGAIN
RIGHT ABOUT
NOW...

HEH.



MURR.



SPLASH

BUMP

GO
IN--!



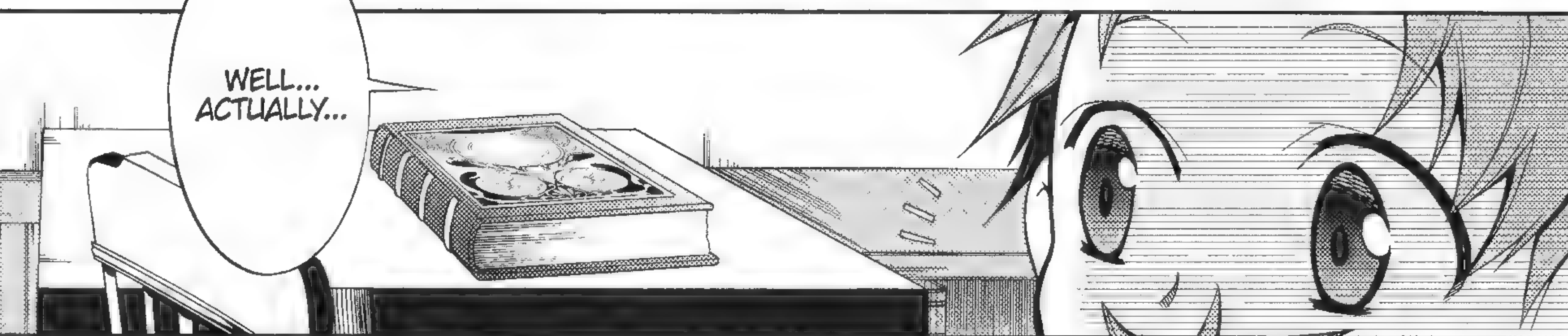
BUT
IN THIS
UNIVERSE,
THERE'S
A BIG
DIFFER-
ENCE!

I WON'T
GET
DISCOUR-
AGED
AFTER ONE
OR TWO
FAILURES
HERE!



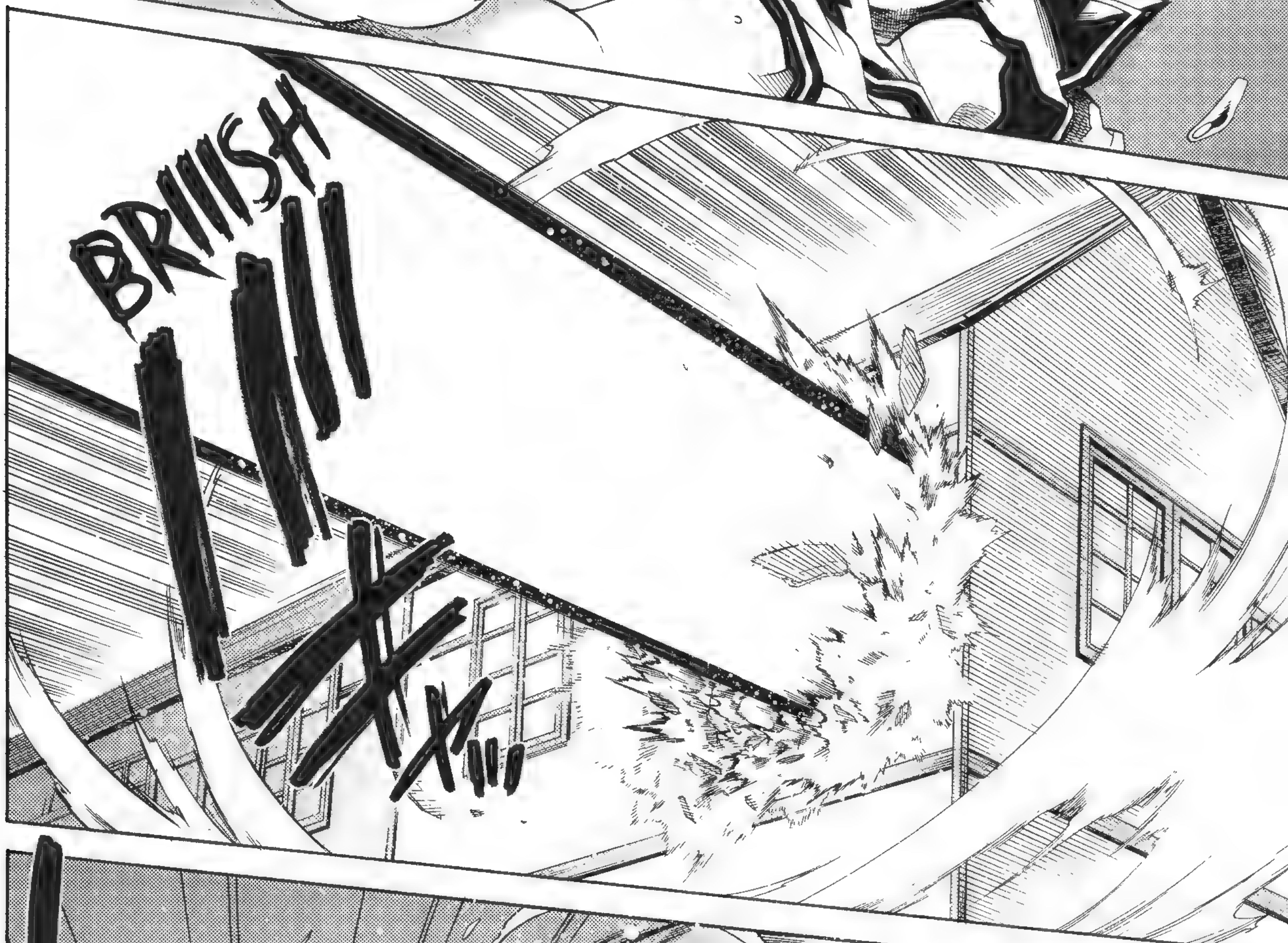
SPRIISH

NOW
AGAIN!!





WHA...?

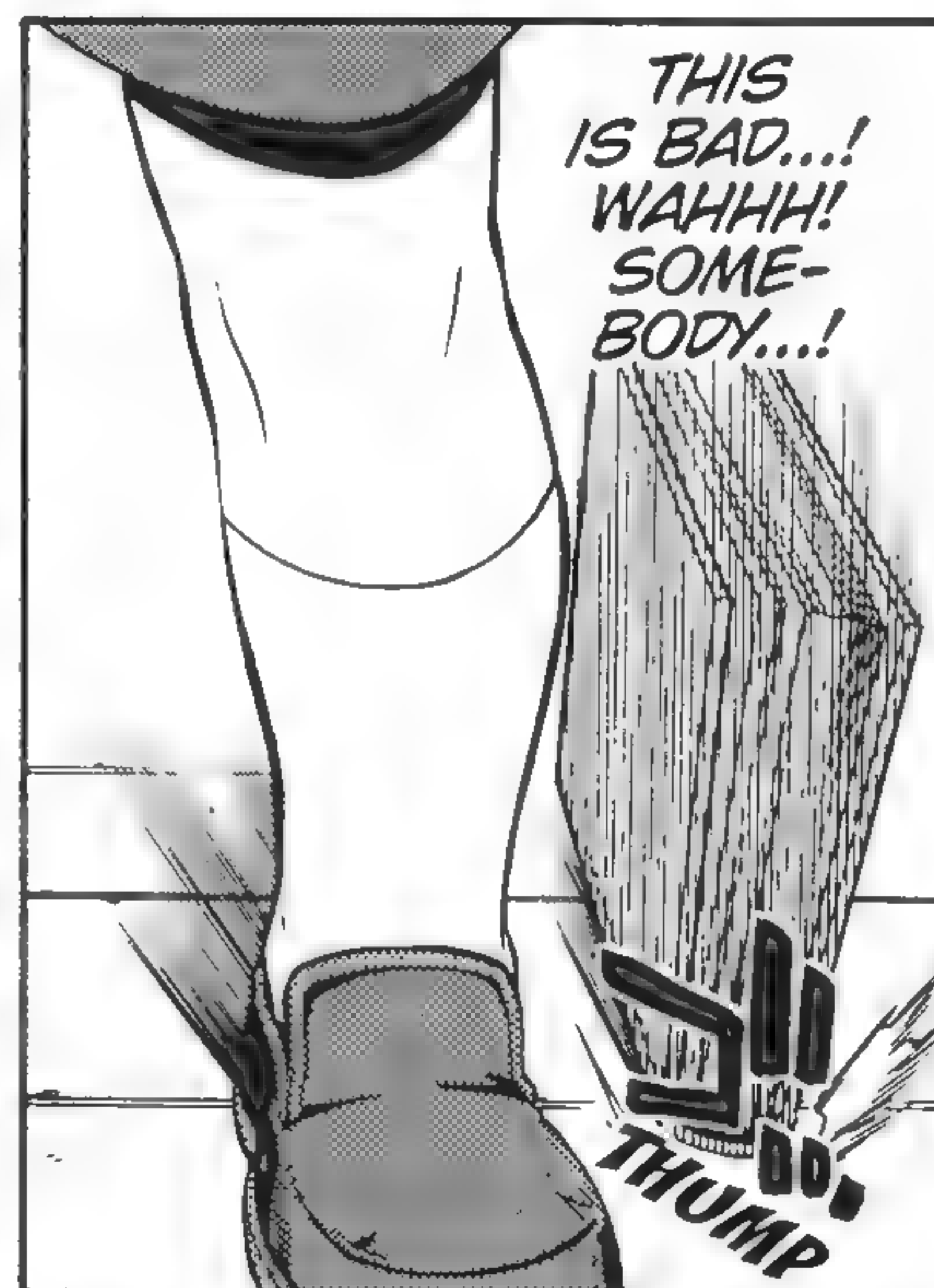




THIS
ISN'T
RIGHT. WHY
WON'T IT
STOP...?!



NO--
NOT
SOMEONE
ELSE!



THIS
IS BAD...!
WAHHH!
SOME-
BODY...!

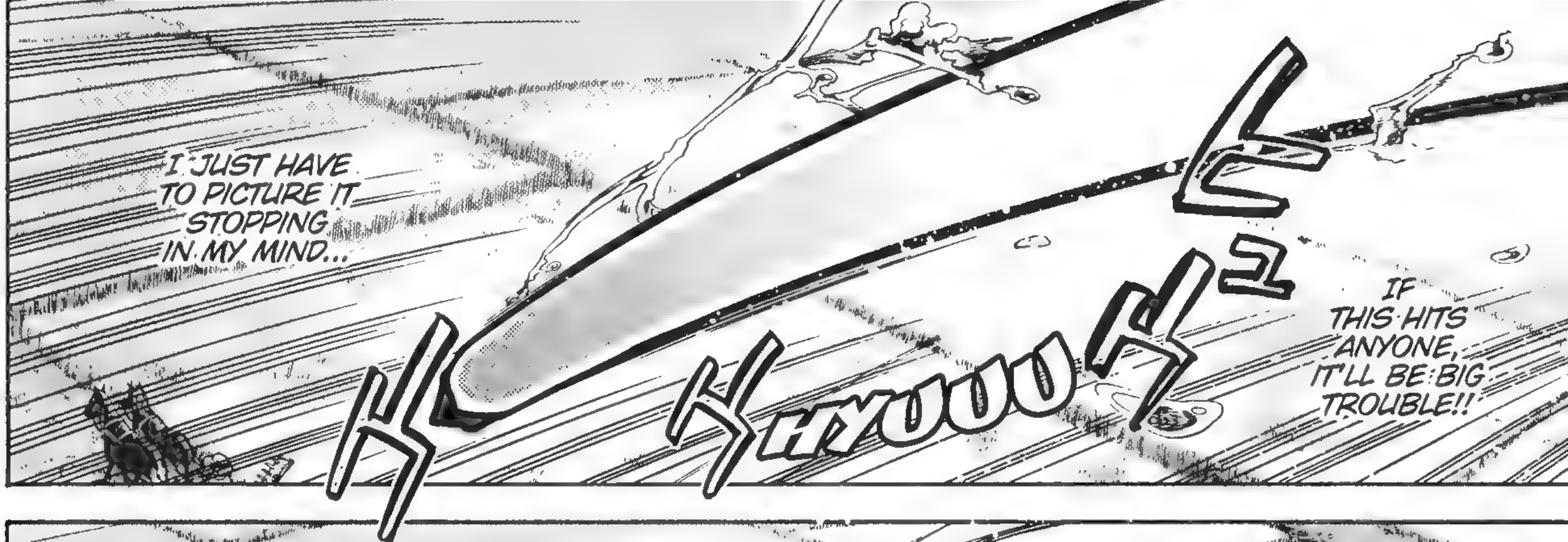
THUMP



CAN
FIX
THIS
MYSELF
!!

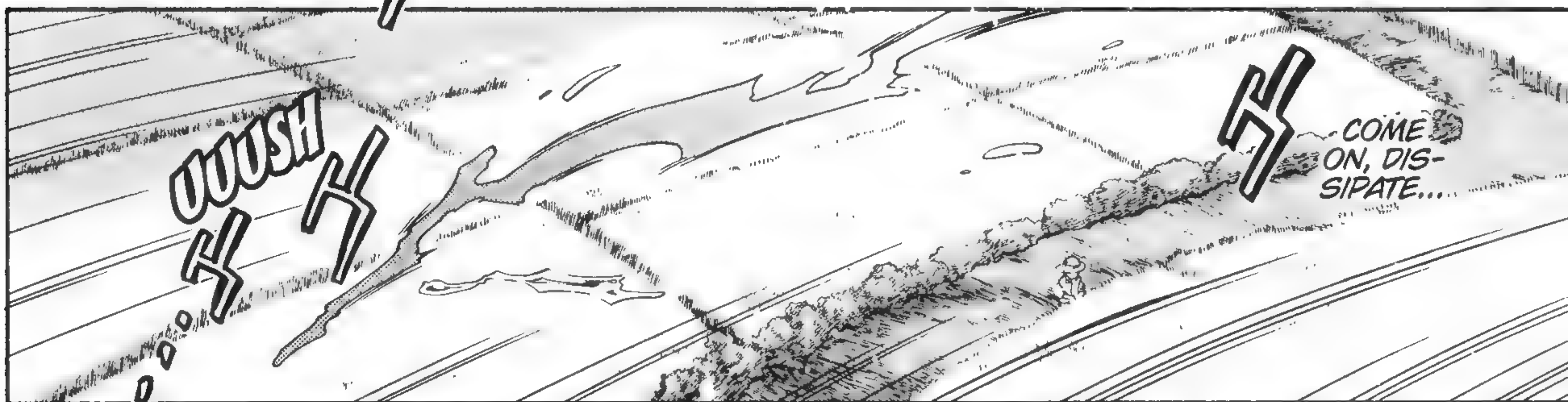
I...

CLENCH



I JUST HAVE
TO PICTURE IT
STOPPING
IN MY MIND...

IF
THIS HITS
ANYONE,
IT'LL BE BIG
TROUBLE!!



OOOSH

COME
ON, DIS-
SIPATE...



TREMBLE
TREMBLE

OH,
NO...!
MY MAGIC
ENERGY
HAS
ALMOST
RUN
OUT...!



SHUDDER

ALL
RIGHT,
JUST A
LITTLE
MORE...

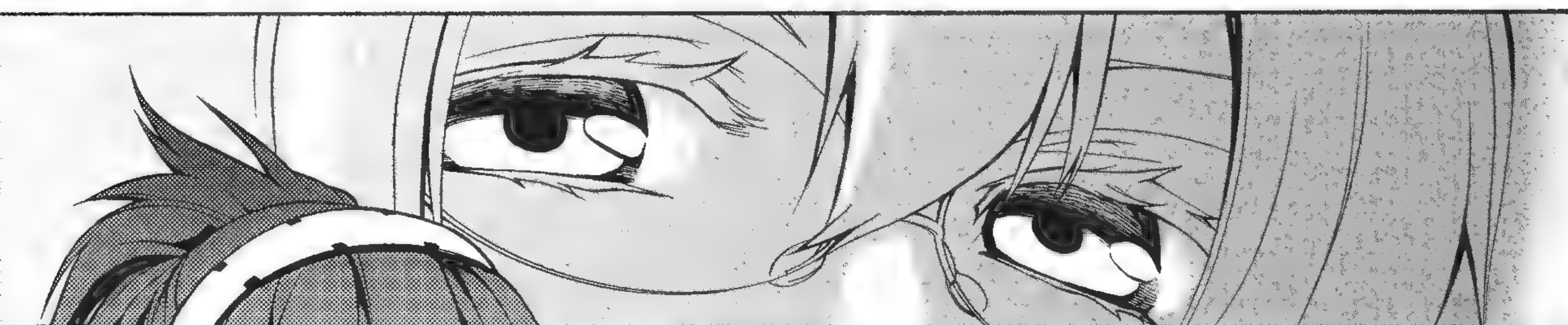


GRANCH



AAA-
UGH!!
DARN
IT...!!



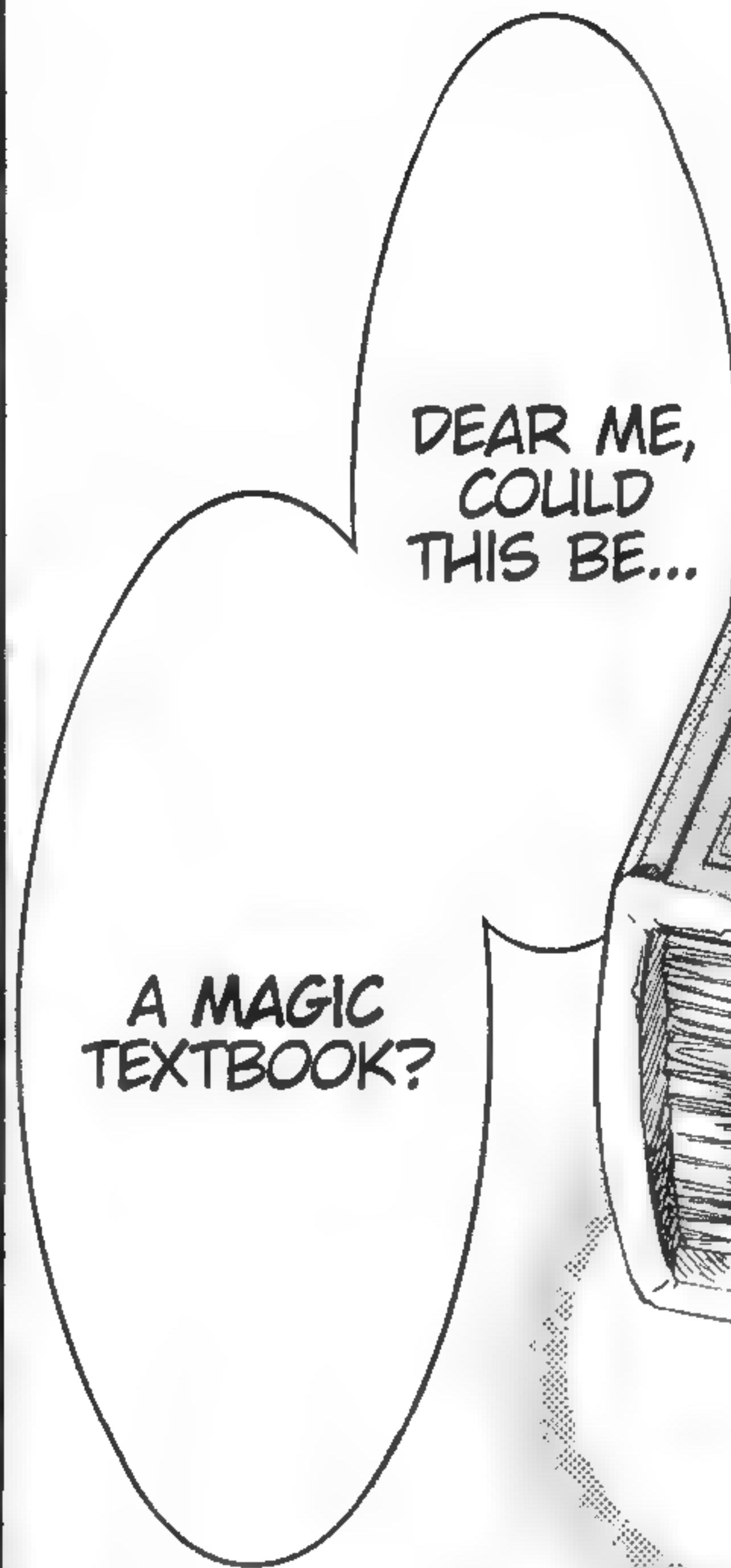




RUDY?

GULP!

UH
OH...!



DEAR ME,
COULD
THIS BE...

A MAGIC
TEXTBOOK?



DURING
MY NEET
DAYS, I
LEARNED
MY LESSON,
SO I
KNOW...

THINGS
WILL ONLY
GET WORSE
IF YOU DO
SOMETHING
BAD AND
KEEP QUIET
ABOUT IT...

Y-
YES...



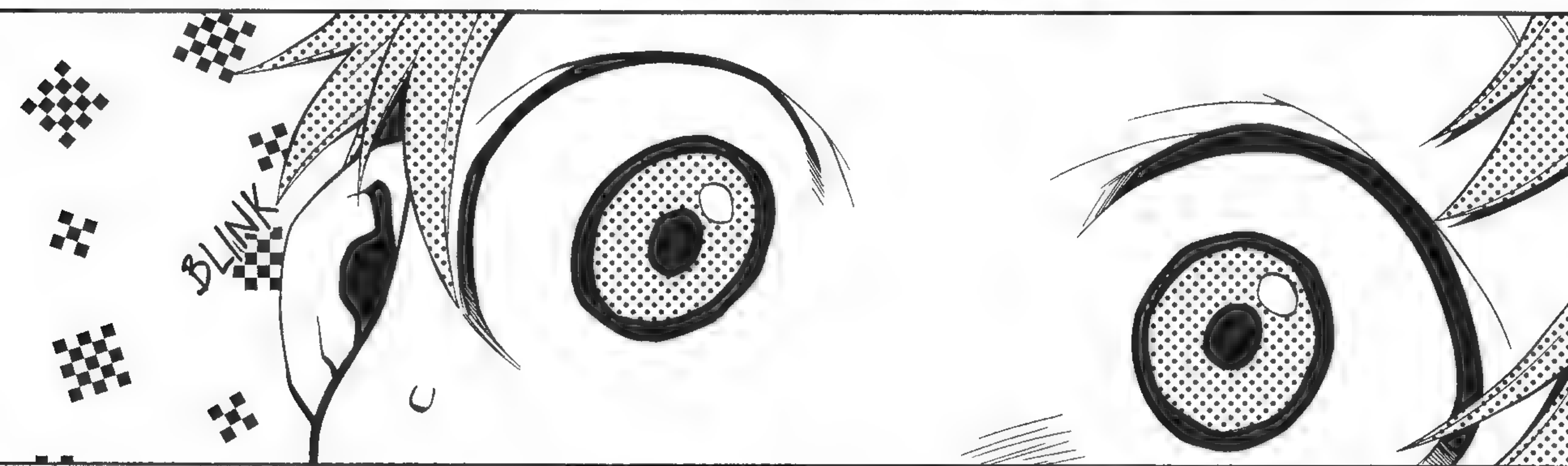
DID YOU,
BY ANY
CHANCE...
READ
THE
WORDS
IN THIS
BOOK
ALoud?



VERY
SORR...

I'LL
JUST BE
HONEST
AND
APOLOGIZE--!

I'M...





YOU
PROMISED
THAT IF WE
HAD A BOY,
HE WOULD
LEARN
SWORDS-
MANSHIP!



NOW,
WAIT
A
MINUTE.

THERE'S
BOUND
TO BE A
TEACHER
SOME-
WHERE
IN ROA...

YES, A
MAGIC
TUTOR!



WHAT IS
A PROMISE
ANYWAY?!
YOU ALWAYS
BREAK
YOURS!!

BUT A
PROMISE
IS A PROM-
ISE!!

THIS HAS
NOTHING
TO DO
WITH ME!!



IF WE
NURTURE
HIS ABILITY,
HE COULD
BECOME AN
AMAZING
WIZARD!!

BUT
HE CAN
ALREADY USE
INTERMEDIATE-
LEVEL MAGIC
AT THIS
AGE!



WHAT'S
GOING
ON...?



UHM... SO
THEY'RE
JUST
IGNORING
MY
APOLOGY...?

CLINK
CRUNCH

SQUABBLE
SQUABBLE





WELL...
I GUESS
THAT'D
BE OKAY.



THANK
YOU FOR
THIS
OPPORTUNITY.

OHHH.

PLEASED
TO MEET
YOU.

OH.





THIS IS OUR LITTLE RUDY!



AH, YES...



ROXY IS...



HAA...

TUG

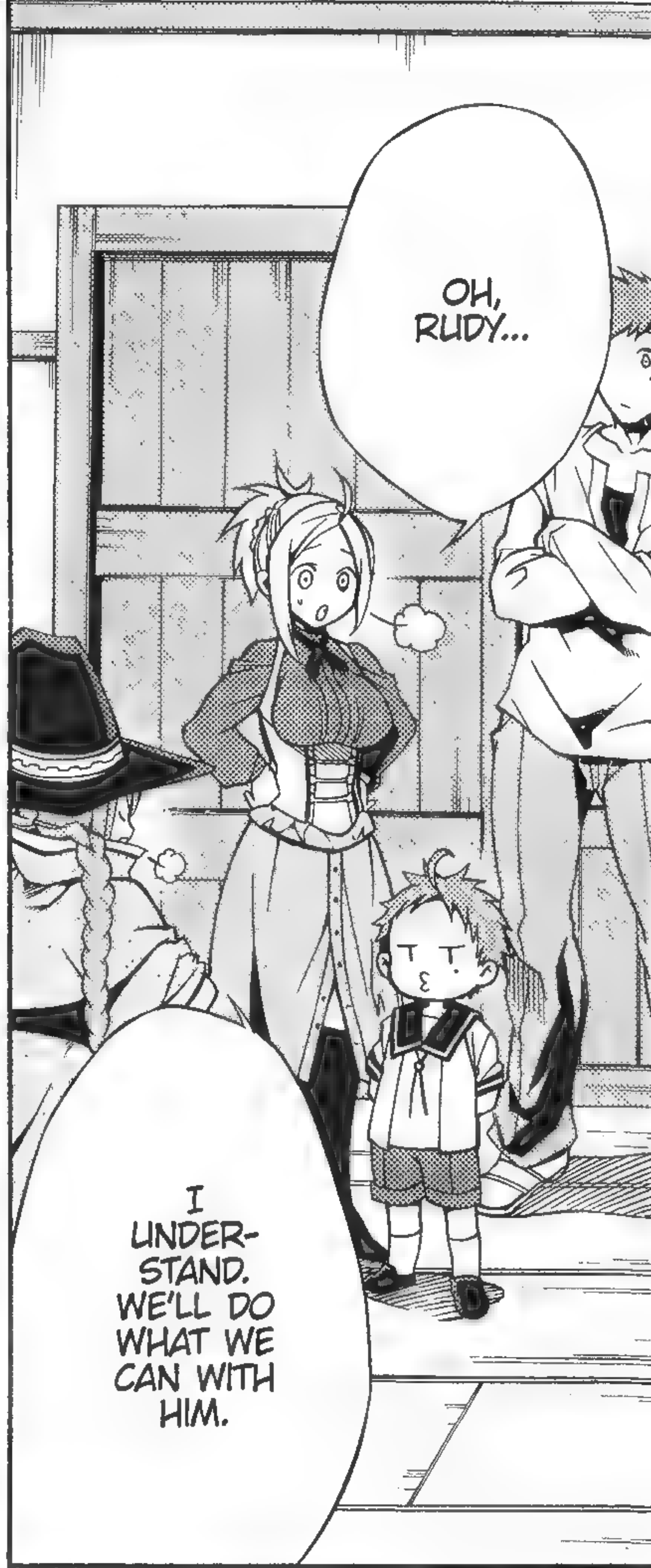


HARUMPH!
I DON'T WANT TO HEAR THAT FROM YOU.





NOW,
RUDY,
I'D LIKE TO
SEE WHAT
YOU CAN
DO RIGHT
AWAY.



OH,
RUDY...

I
UNDER-
STAND.
WE'LL DO
WHAT WE
CAN WITH
HIM.



LOLI,
SCORNFUL
EYES,
BLUNT.
HOW
PERFECT.

HMM...
"ROXY"
HUH?



I'LL LET
YOU TRAIN
ME AS
BEST AS
YOU CAN.

ALL
RIGHT,
MAGIC
TUTOR.



BECAUSE
I...



...AM GOING
TO GO
ALL-OUT IN
THIS WORLD!!!



Chapter 2

MASTER



I DIED AS
A USELESS
DEADBEAT,
BUT THEN
I WAS
REBORN IN
A PARALLEL
UNIVERSE OF
SWORDS AND
MAGIC.

POSE
★

MY
NAME
IS
RUDY.

I MAY LOOK
LIKE A KID,
BUT INSIDE,
I'M JUST A
WORTHLESS,
MIDDLE-AGED
NEET. LIKE
A HYBRID,
SORT OF.



LET'S
GET RUDY
A MAGIC
TUTOR!!

AND
WHEN
MY
PAR-
ENTS
FOUND
OUT...



NOW, IN
ORDER TO
LIVE MY NEW
LIFE TO THE
FULLEST,
I'D BEEN
PRACTICING
MAGIC
EVERY DAY.



OKAY!

NOW...

LET'S
SEE HOW
MUCH
MAGIC YOU
CAN USE.



SIGH...
I UNDER-
STAND.

WE
ENDED
UP WITH
ROXY,
THE LOLI
MAGICIAN.

THIS
TODDLER
IS TO
BE MY
STUDENT?



OUTSIDE.

WELL,
SHALL
WE GET
GOING?



HUH?
OF
COURSE.

IF WE
USE MAGIC
INSIDE,
WE MIGHT
DESTROY
HALF THE
HOUSE.



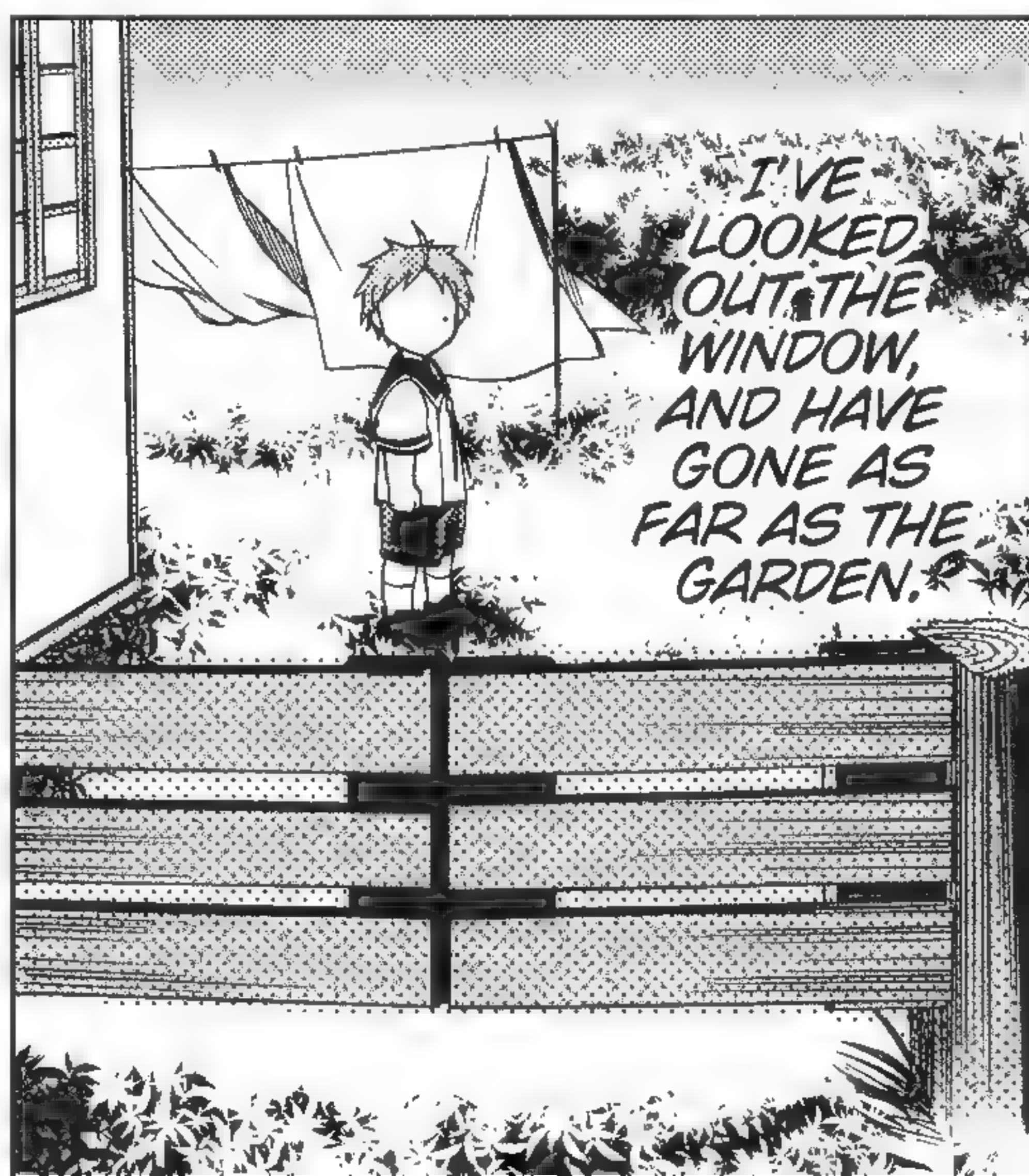
I'VE
AVOIDED
GOING
OUTSIDE
THE HOUSE
SINCE BEING
REBORN
HERE.

HA HA...!
R-RIGHT...

CLENCH



BUT
ANY
MORE
THAN
THAT--



I'VE
LOOKED
OUT THE
WINDOW,
AND HAVE
GONE AS
FAR AS THE
GARDEN.



EH...?
OUT...
SIDE?





EVEN
THOUGH I
KNOW IT'S A
COMPLETELY
DIFFERENT
WORLD
FROM MY
PREVIOUS
LIFE...

IT'S
PATHETIC...

RUDY?

AND I
VOWED TO
TAKE LIFE
SERIOUSLY,
THE TRAUMA
OF MY
DEATH STILL
HAUNTS
ME.



URGH
...!!!

COVER



AH...
UM...

FEEL
LIKE I'M
ABOUT TO
CRY.

I
REALLY...

SQUEEZE...





HERE
AND
NOW...

SHMSH
SHMSH
SHMSH

SHMSH
SHMSH
SHMSH

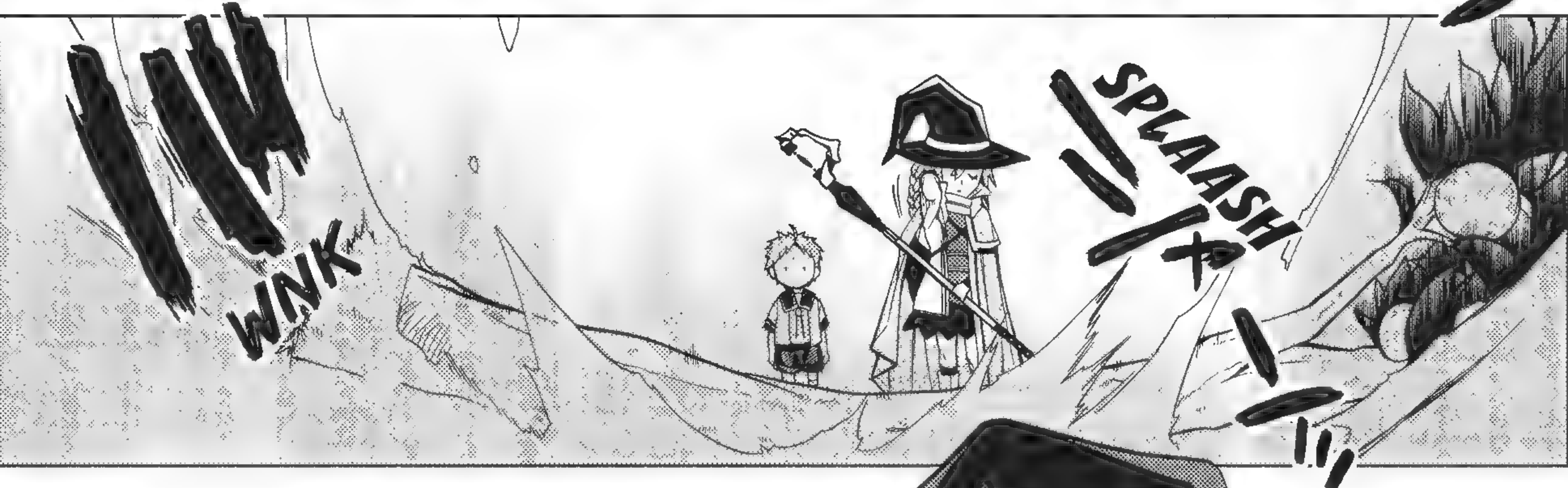
SPA-THWOOSH

WATER
BALL!

GLANCE

STARE

SH
SH
SH







MURMUR

I CALL
UPON
THE
POWER
OF THE
GODS.
GRANT
ME
YOUR
AID...

...BESTOW
THE
STRENGTH
TO RISE
AGAIN
UNTO
THOSE
WHO HAVE
SUFFERED
...!

MURMUR

STRUGGLE

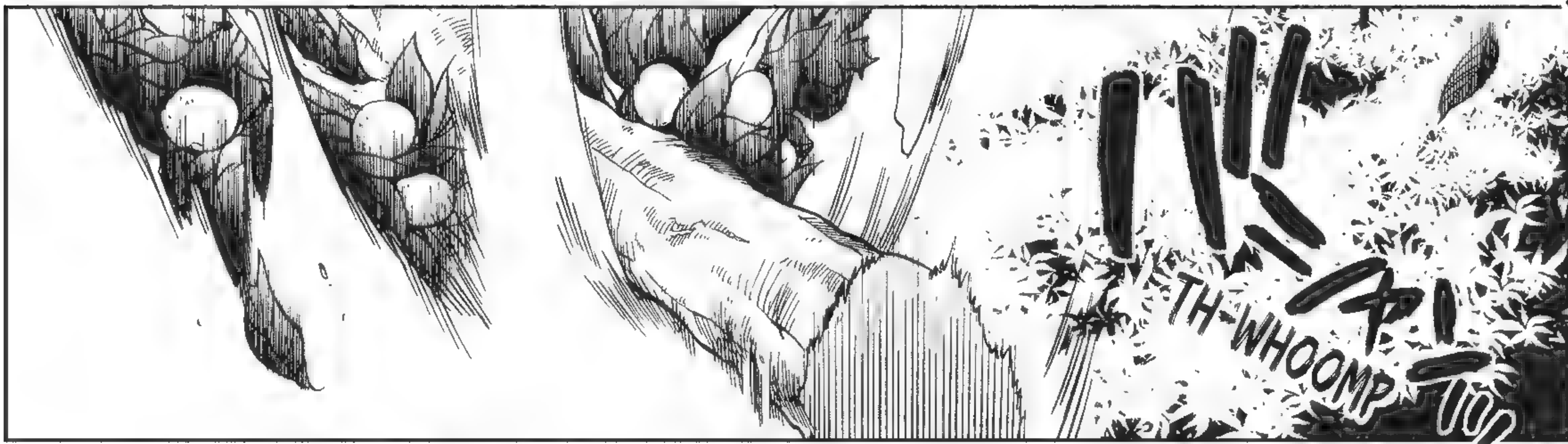


HEALING!!

PAAASHI









TEACHER,
CAN'T
YOU?

BUT I
ALWAYS
USE
VOICELESS
SPELLS...

GAAGAAH!

THIS
SMALL CHILD
CAN USE
SILENT
INCANTA-
TIONS?!



GLANCE



O-
OKAY...

THERE'S
SUD-
DENLY
A DARK
AURA!

EH?
WHAT'S
GOING
ON?!

I HAVE
NOTHING
TO SAY
ABOUT THE
SIZE AND
STRENGTH
OF YOUR
WATER BALL,
RUDY.



NOD

NOD

UH
HUH...
I SEE
NOW...



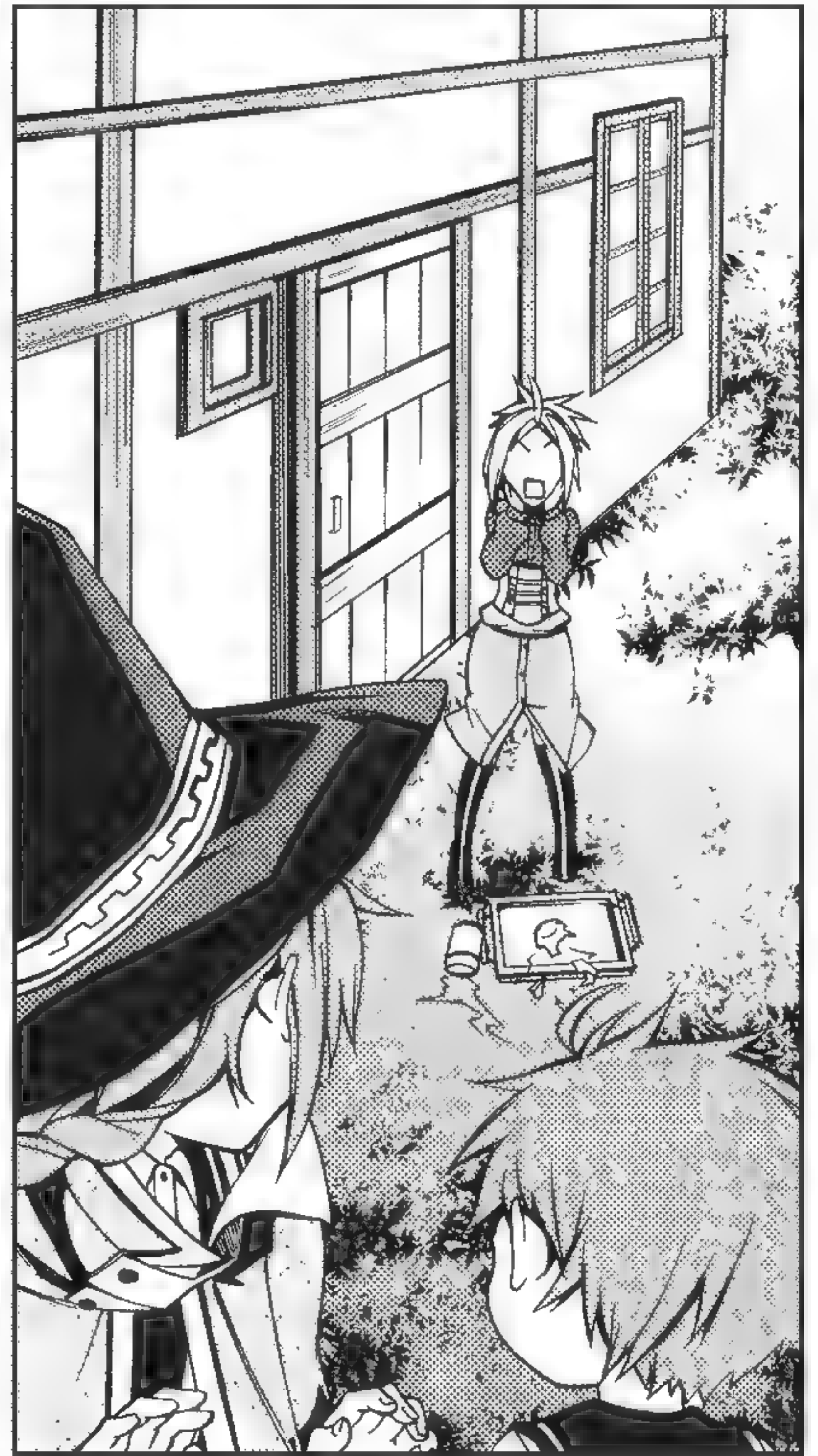
IT SEEMS
THAT THERE
MIGHT BE
SOME MERIT
TO TRAINING
THIS ONE
AFTER ALL...!

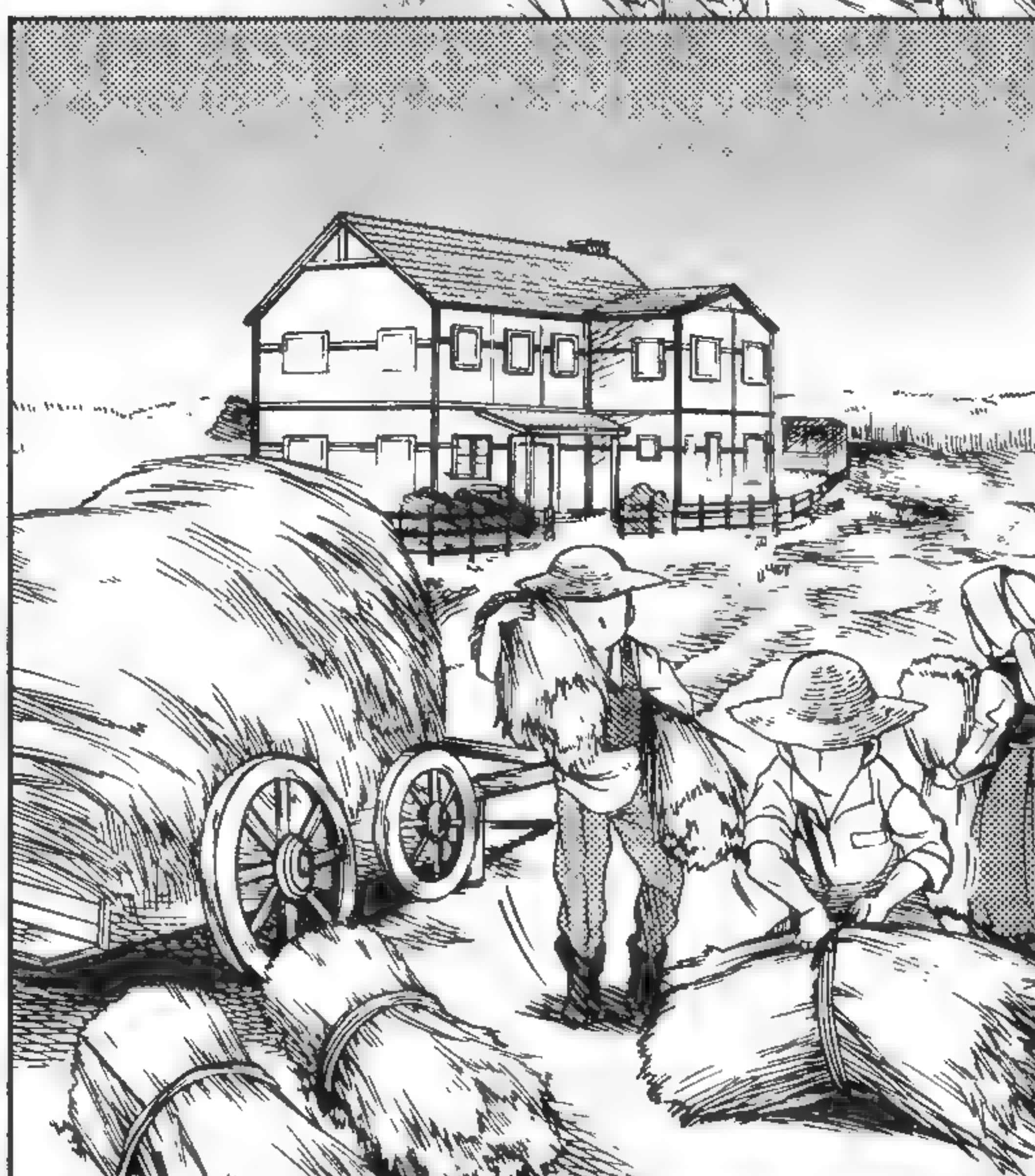
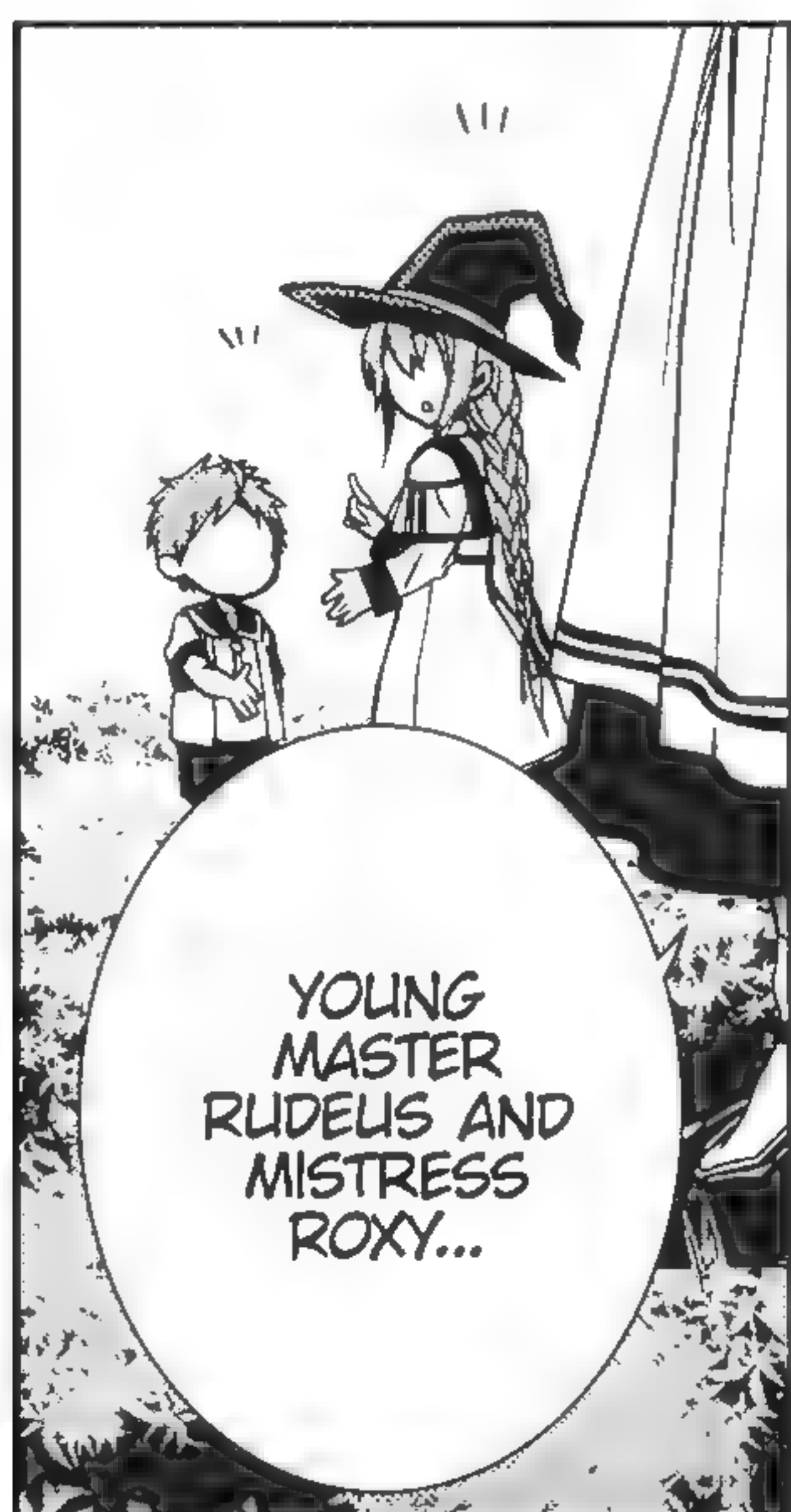
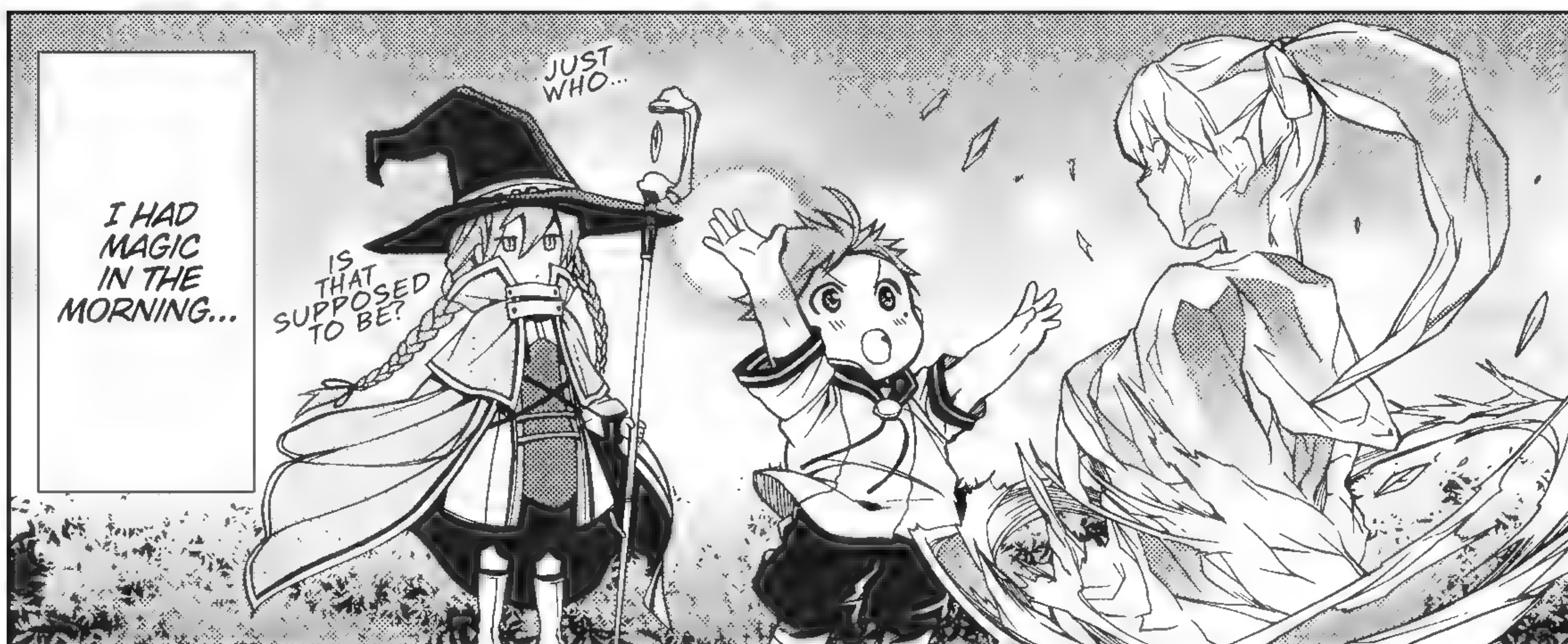
MUWA
HA HA
HA...

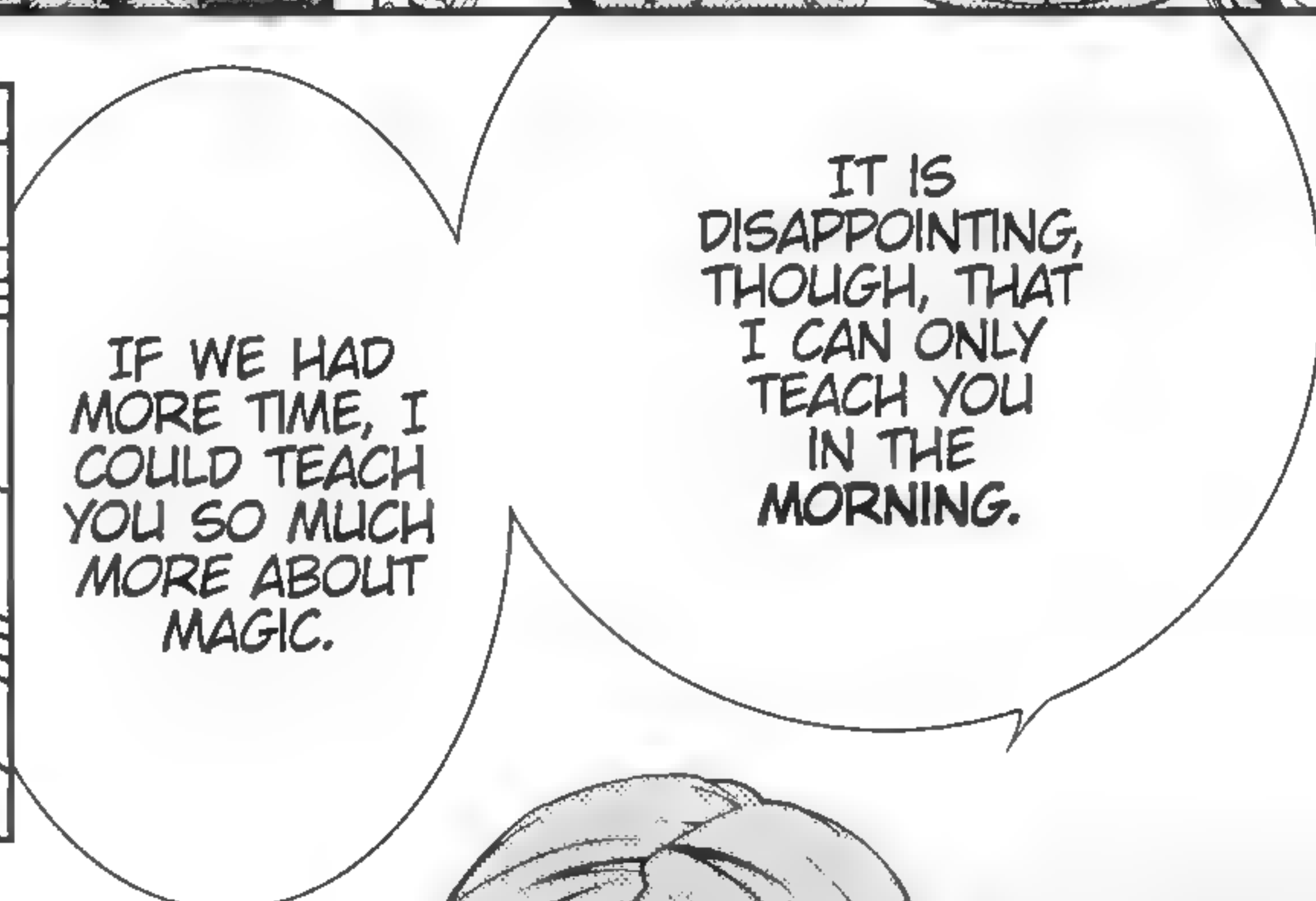
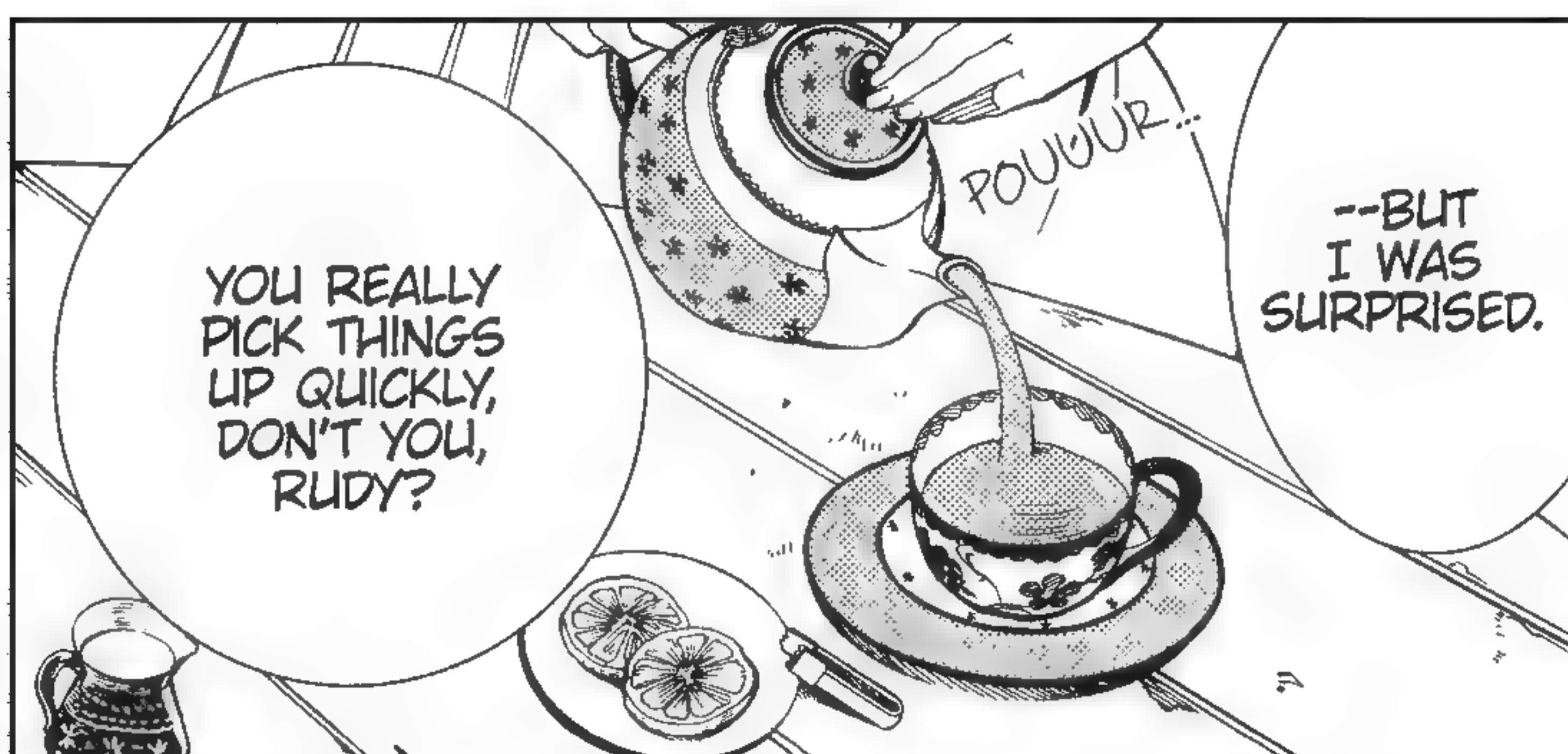


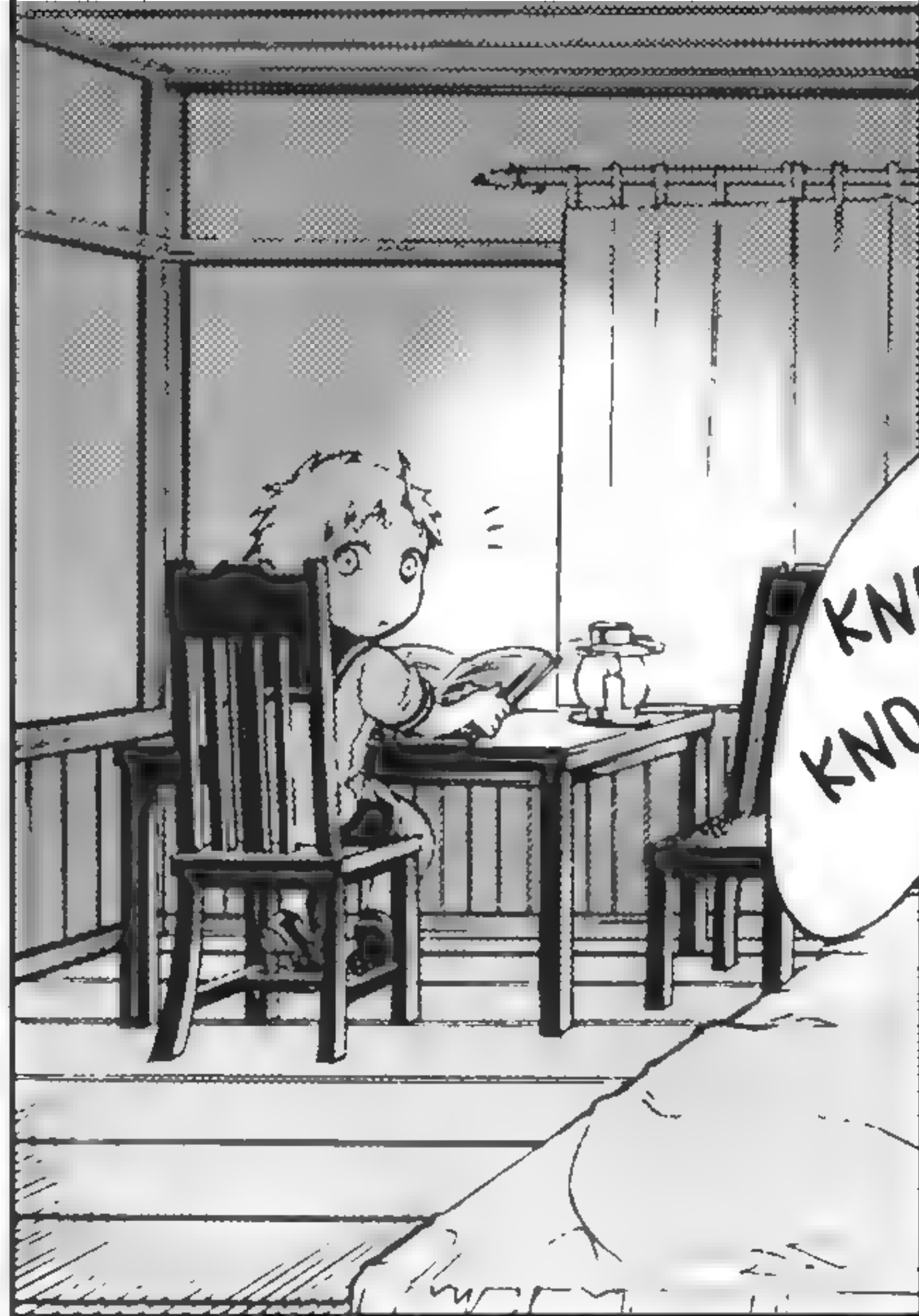
I CAN
STILL
HEAR
YOU.

TALK
ABOUT
SCARY.











RIIIIGHT.

IT WAS TOO MUCH TO HOPE FOR SOME EXCITING "LATE-NIGHT ACTION," I GUESS.

SIGH-

OKAY. FROM TODAY FORWARD YOU WILL BEGIN NIGHT LESSONS FOCUSING ON GENERAL KNOWLEDGE!



WE'LL
BEGIN WITH
THE GENERAL
RACES OF
OUR WORLD.

SINCE IT'S
YOUR FIRST
LESSON, WE'LL
START OFF WITH
SOMETHING
EASY.



GOLDEN-
HAIRC'D,
BOW-
WIELDING,
& GREEN-
DRESS-
WEARING...

PEOPLE
TRAPPED BY
TENTACLES!!!
SO THEY
ARE REAL!!!!

UH-UH.
I DON'T.

RUDY,
DO YOU KNOW
WHO CREATED
THE MAGIC WE
USE EVERY
DAY?

YOU'RE
HONEST.
THAT'S
GOOD.



IT IS SAID
THAT MAGIC
WAS CREATED
BY THE HIGH
ELVES.

PING

ELVES
?!!







OH,
I GET
IT!

SPECIFICALLY
SPEAKING, I'M
A MIGURD,
FROM BIEGOYA
ON THE
DEMON
CONTINENT.

I'M A
DEMON.

YES.

DEMONS
GENERALLY HAVE
HAIR WHICH IS
CLOSE TO GREEN
IN COLOR, AND
ARE SAID TO BE
ONE OF THE MOST
DANGEROUS AND
UNPREDICTABLE
RACES.

YOUR
PARENTS WERE
SURPRISED
WHEN THEY
SAW ME,
REMEMBER?



TWIRL
TWIRL

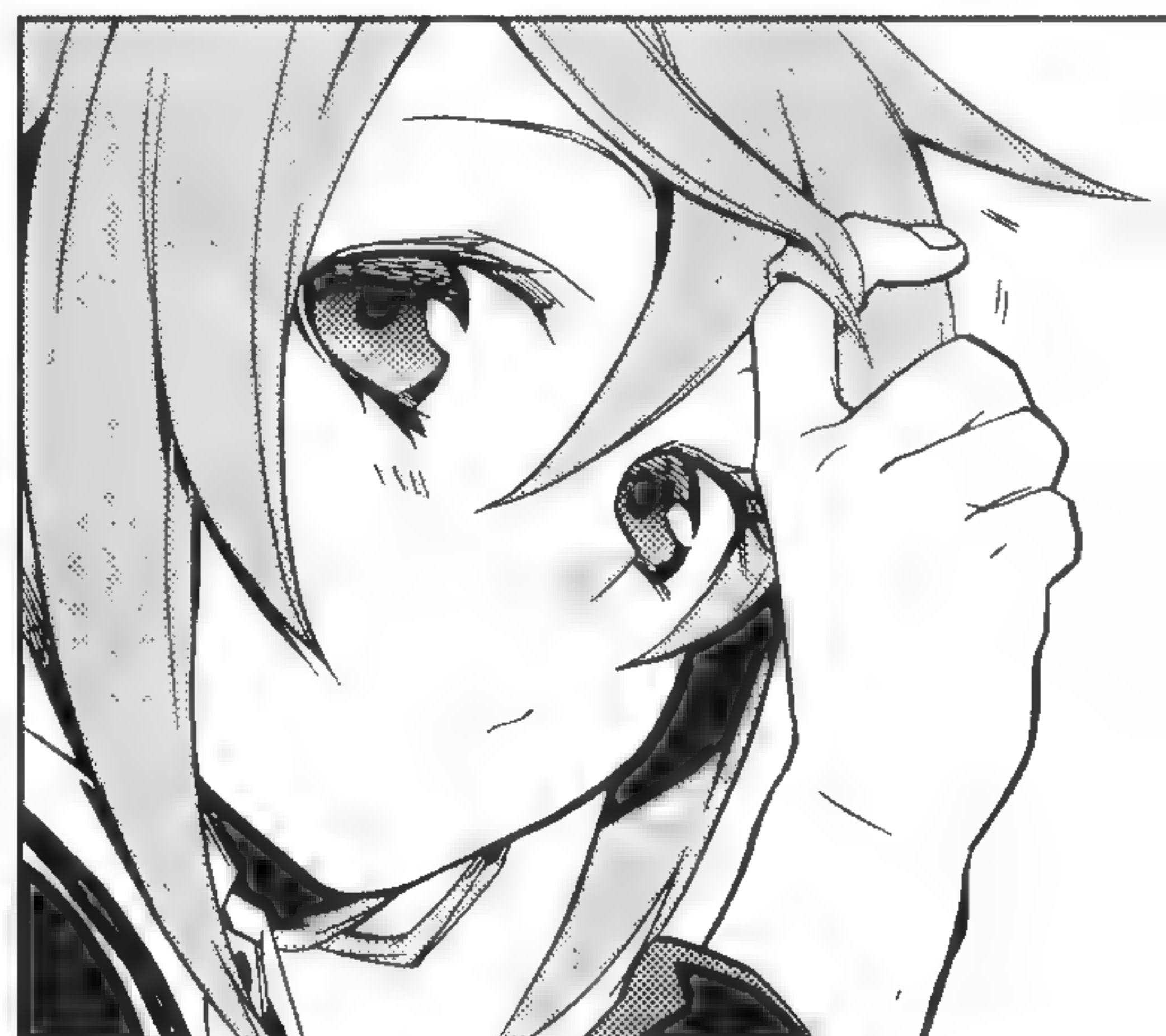
MY HAIR
COLOR IS
BLUE, BUT IT
LOOKS GREEN
IN SOME KINDS
OF LIGHT.

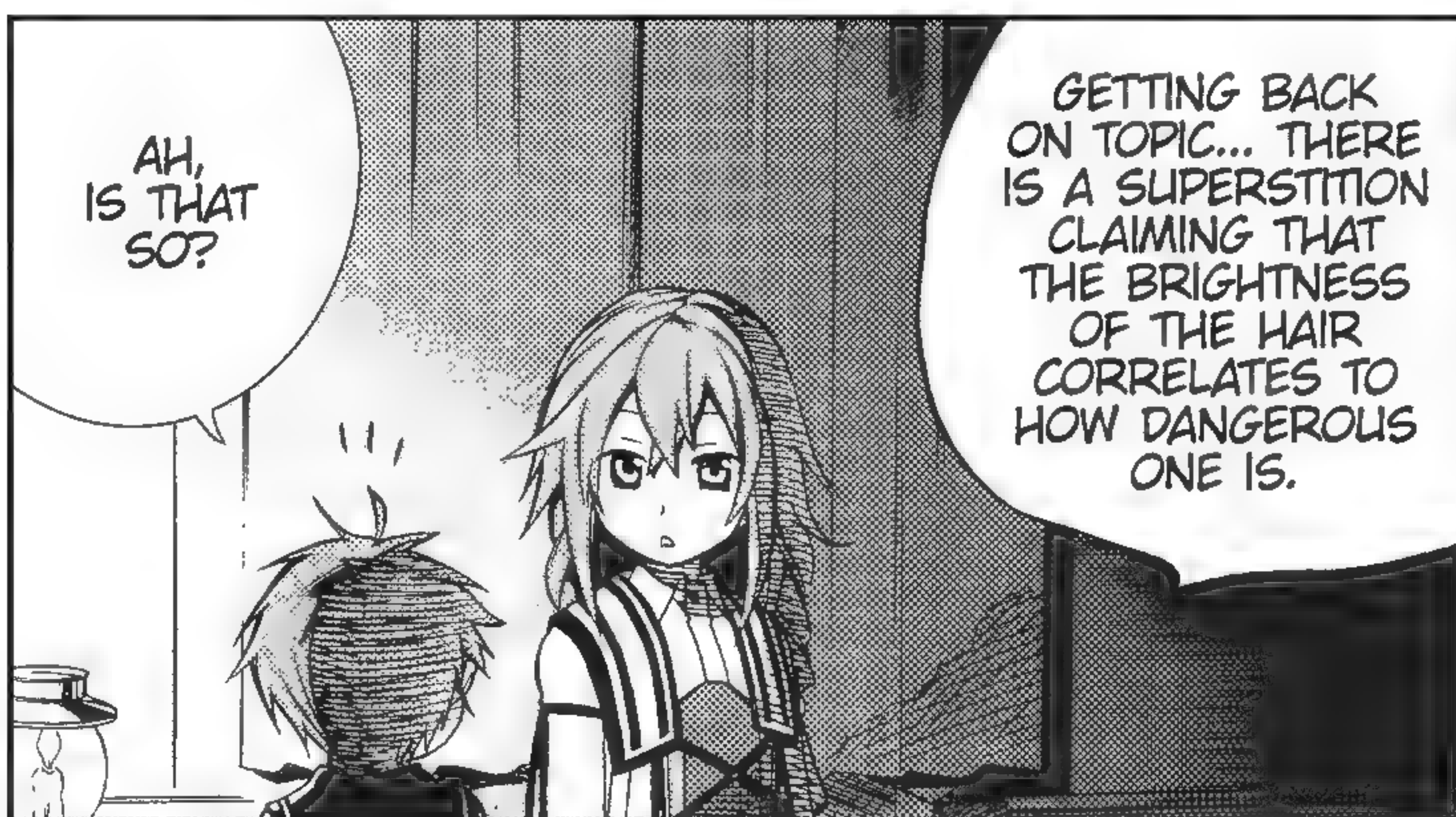


I AM
NOT
SMALL.

I THOUGHT
IT WAS JUST
BECAUSE YOU
WERE SO
SMALL.

CLARE





AH,
IS THAT
SO?

GETTING BACK
ON TOPIC... THERE
IS A SUPERSTITION
CLAIMING THAT
THE BRIGHTNESS
OF THE HAIR
CORRELATES TO
HOW DANGEROUS
ONE IS.



WHEN
IT COMES
TO CUTE
GIRLS, IT'S
IMPORTANT
TO MAKE
MOVES ON
ALL OF THEM.
HEH HEH!

AHEM!



IF I WERE
TO GIVE YOU
A REASON
FOR WHY THIS
SUPERSTITION
EXISTS...

THERE WAS
A TRIBE
CALLED THE
"SUPERD,"
KNOWN FOR
THEIR EMERALD
GREEN HAIR
AND RED
FOREHEAD
GEMS.

DURING
THE WAR
FOUR HUNDRED
YEARS AGO,
THEY WENT ON
A VIOLENT
RAMPAGE, WHICH
LED TO THIS
ONGOING
RUMOR.



AFTER THE WAR ENDED, THEY WERE PERSECUTED AND CONSIDERED SO DANGEROUS THAT THEY WERE BANNED FROM THE DEMON CONTINENT.

IN A WAR THAT LASTED NEARLY TEN YEARS, THEY WERE FEARED AND HATED BY ALL--BOTH ENEMIES AND ALLIES ALIKE--BECAUSE OF THEIR DEADLY RAIDS.



SINCE THE MIGURD WERE CLOSE TO THE SUPERD TRIBE...

THEY WERE FACED WITH HARSH OPPOSITION AS WELL.

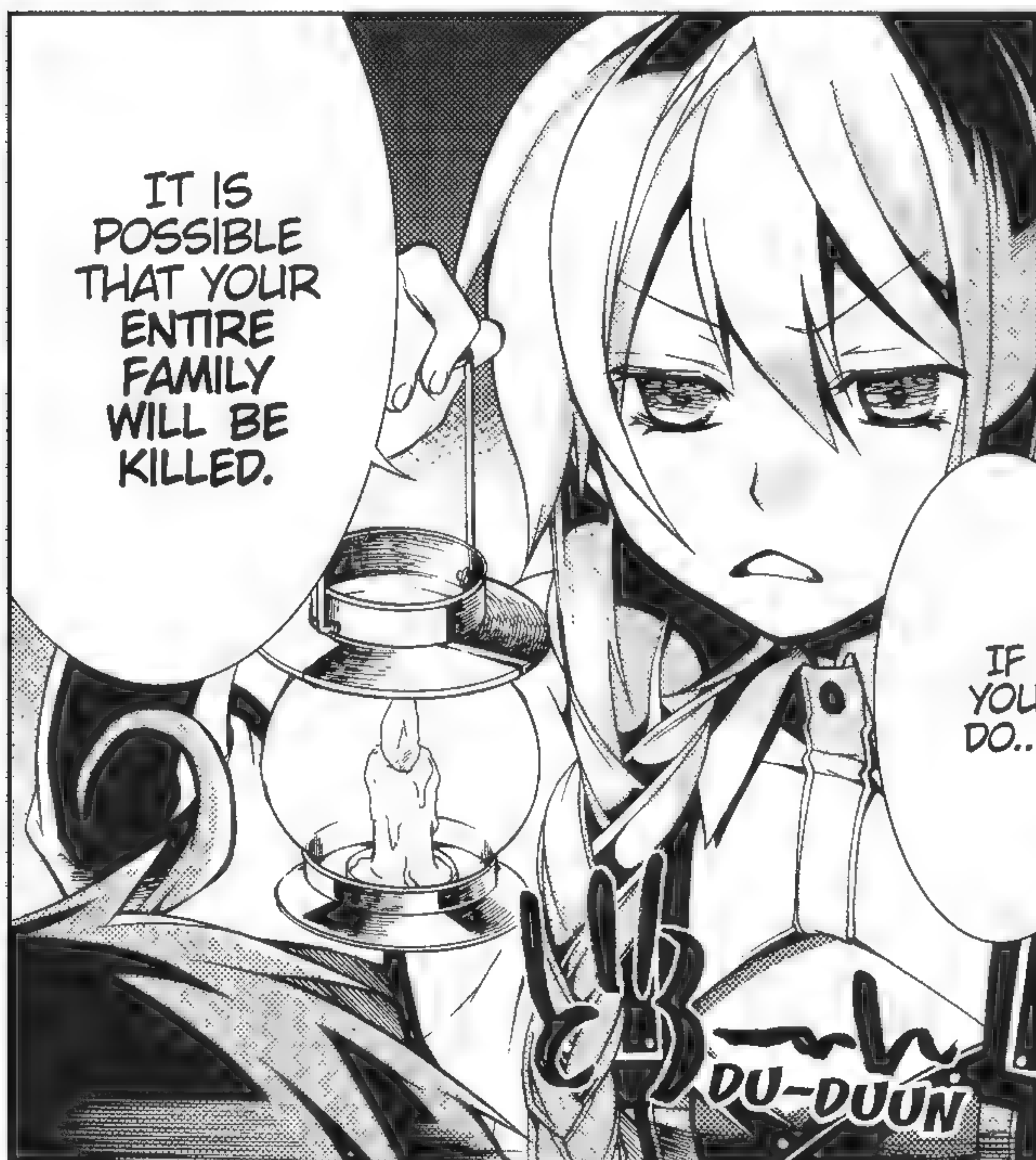
YES, IT WAS THAT BAD.



GULP...

PEOPLE HATED THEM THAT MUCH...?

KICKED OUT BY THEIR OWN ALLIES... WOW.



IT IS POSSIBLE THAT YOUR ENTIRE FAMILY WILL BE KILLED.

IF YOU DO...

DU-DUUN



CLINK

DO NOT ANGER THEM.

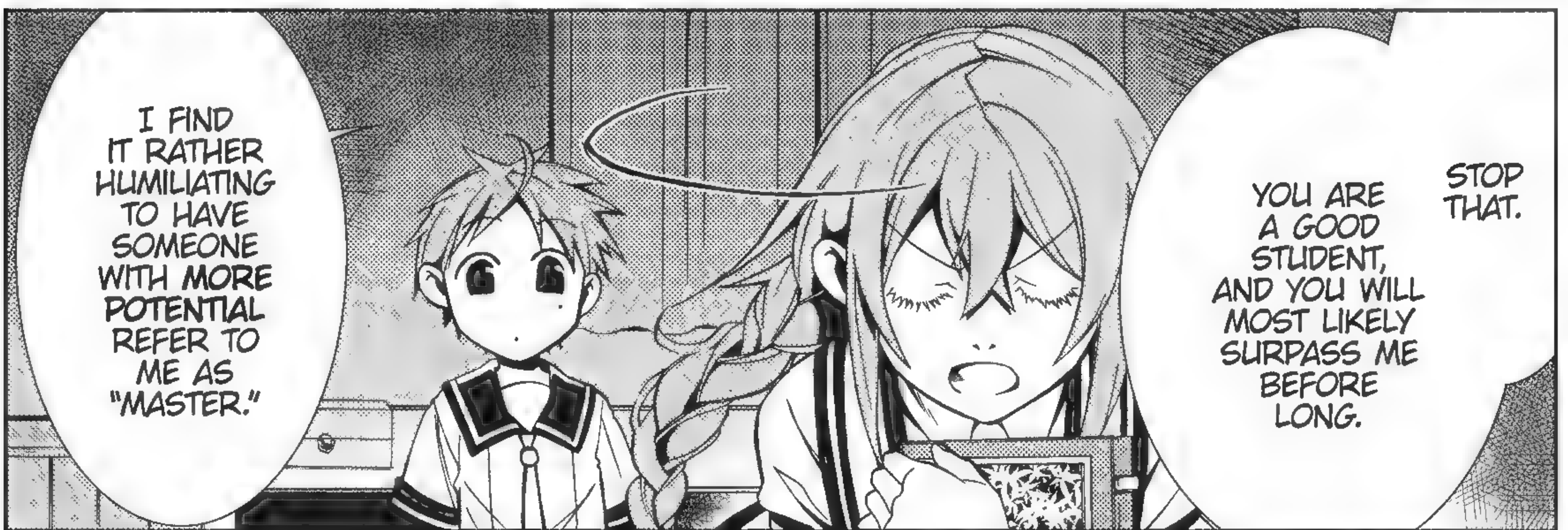
IN ANY CASE, IT'S BETTER TO AVOID THEM AT ALL COST...

BUT IF YOU HAVE NO CHOICE BUT TO CROSS PATHS, DON'T FORGET THAT DIFFERENT THINGS ARE COMMON SENSE TO HUMANS AND DEMONS.





"MASTER"
...?



I FIND
IT RATHER
HUMILIATING
TO HAVE
SOMEONE
WITH MORE
POTENTIAL
REFER TO
ME AS
"MASTER."

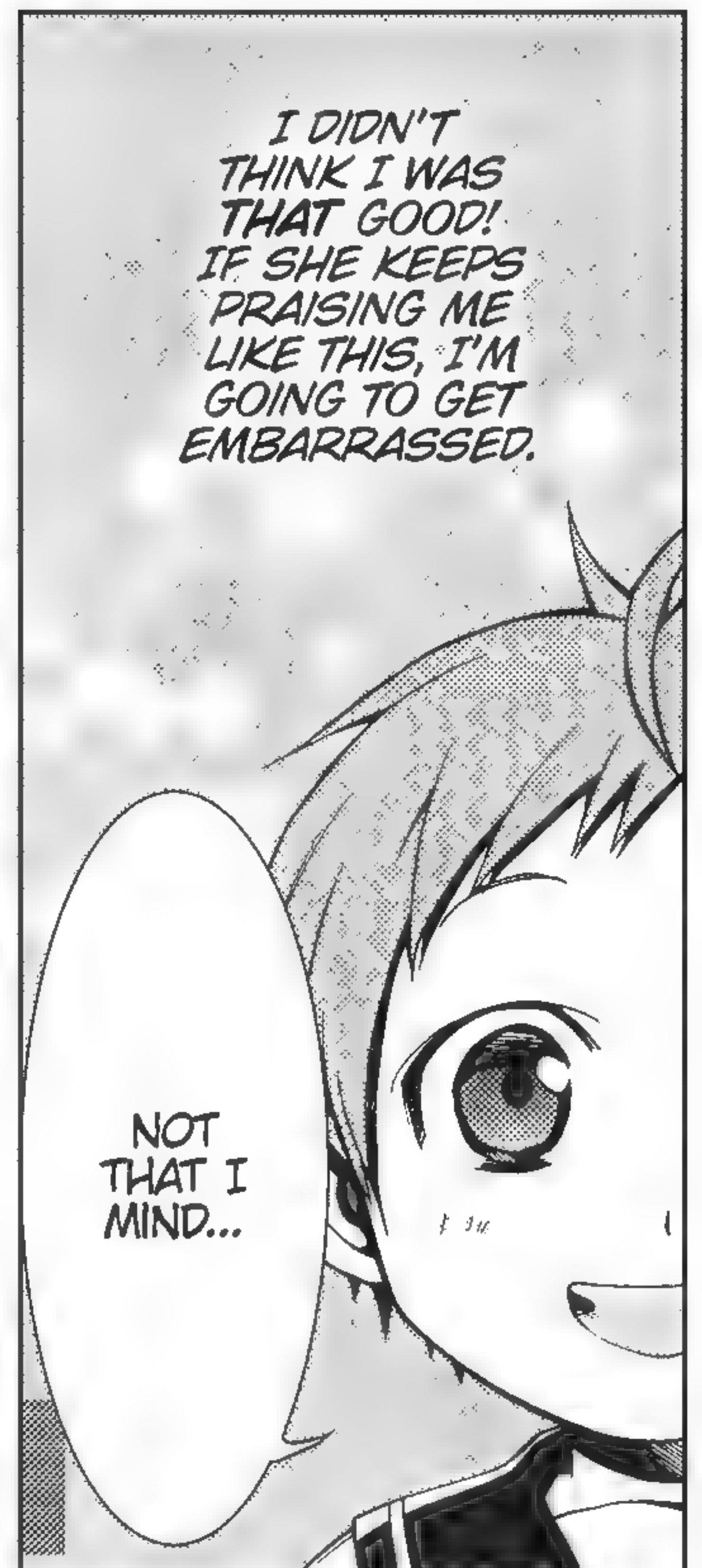
YOU ARE
A GOOD
STUDENT,
AND YOU WILL
MOST LIKELY
SURPASS ME
BEFORE
LONG.

STOP
THAT.



ON TOP
OF THAT, IF I
GET JEALOUS
OF A PUPIL AS
TALENTED AS YOU,
WHO KNOWS
WHAT PEOPLE
WILL SAY.

BUT I
DON'T
LIKE IT!



I DIDN'T
THINK I WAS
THAT GOOD!
IF SHE KEEPS
PRAISING ME
LIKE THIS, I'M
GOING TO GET
EMBARRASSED.

NOT
THAT I
MIND...



I-GUESS
ROXY'S BEEN
CALLED THOSE
THINGS
BEFORE...

THEY MIGHT
SAY THINGS
ABOUT HOW
I'M A FILTHY
DEMON OR
SOME
COUNTRY
BUMPKIN!!

POOR
THING...



I'M SO GLAD I MET ROXY.

IF I HADN'T, I'D PROBABLY STILL BE STUDYING ON MY OWN AND NOT GETTING VERY FAR.



BUT... ROXY'S LESSONS ARE EASY TO UNDERSTAND, AND INTERESTING, TOO.



I'LL CONTINUE TO THINK OF ROXY AS MY MASTER IN MY HEART!

SHE TEACHES ME THINGS I CAN'T GET BY JUST READING



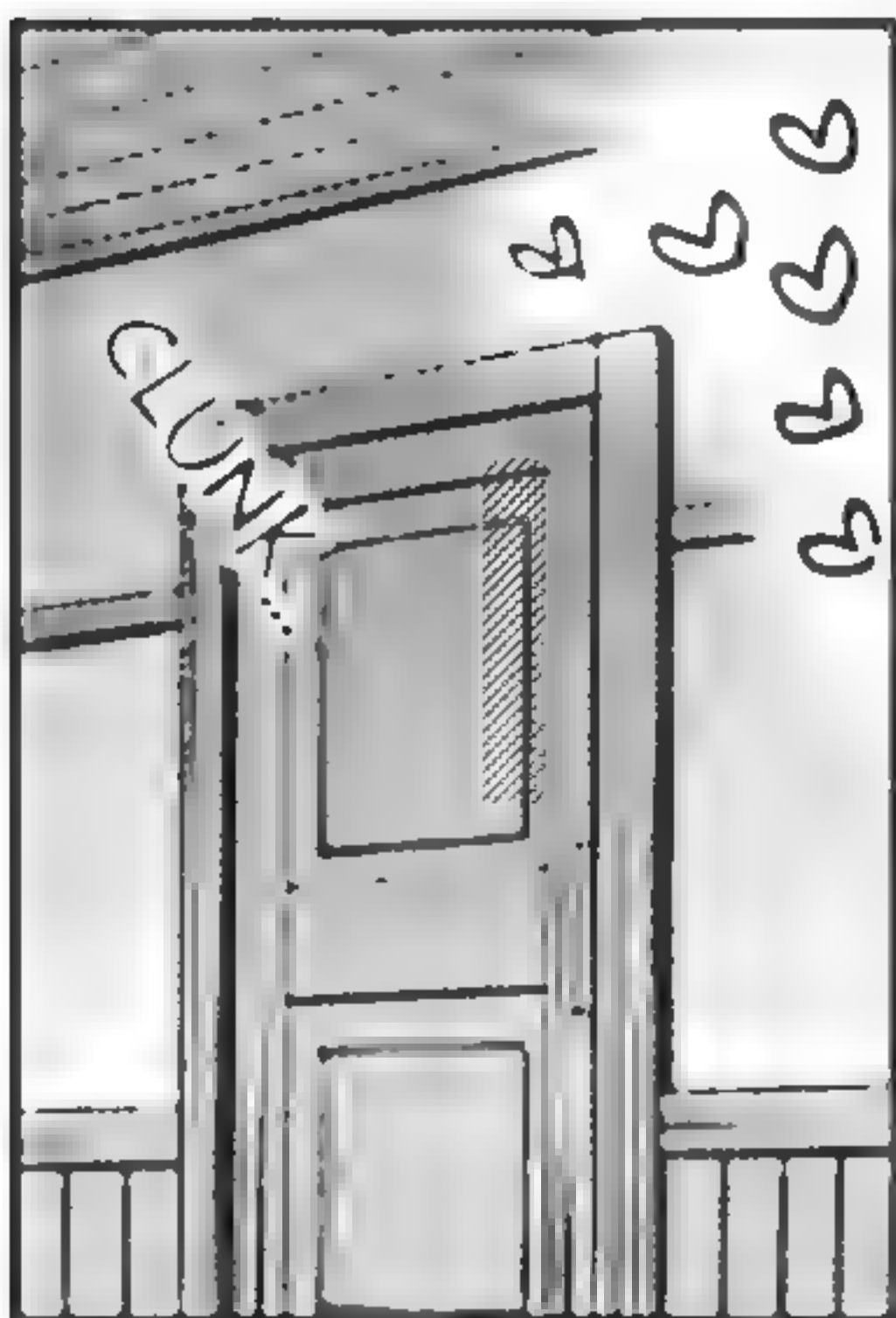
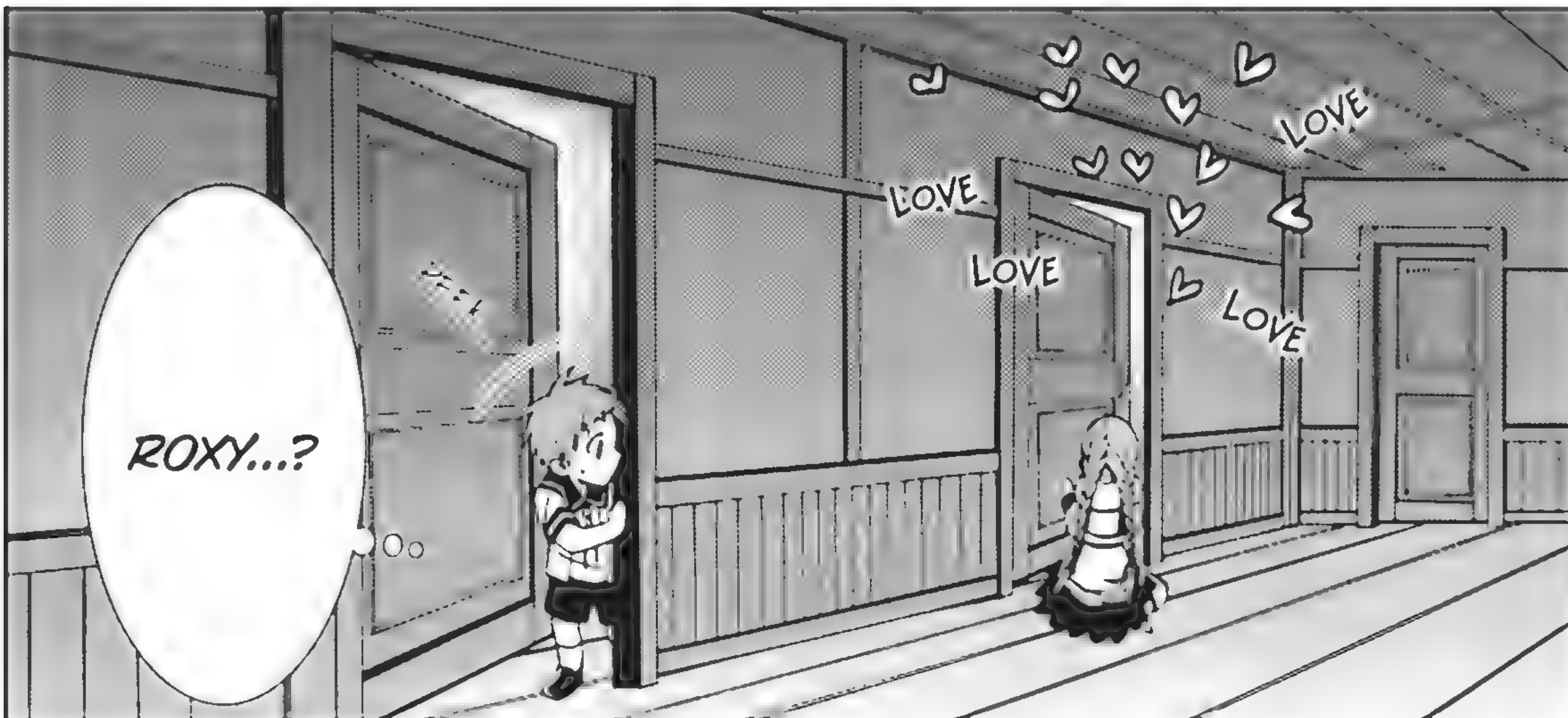
RATTLE
RATTLE
RATTLE

LET'S SEE, WHAT ELSE CAN I READ ABOUT TONIGHT--
HUH?



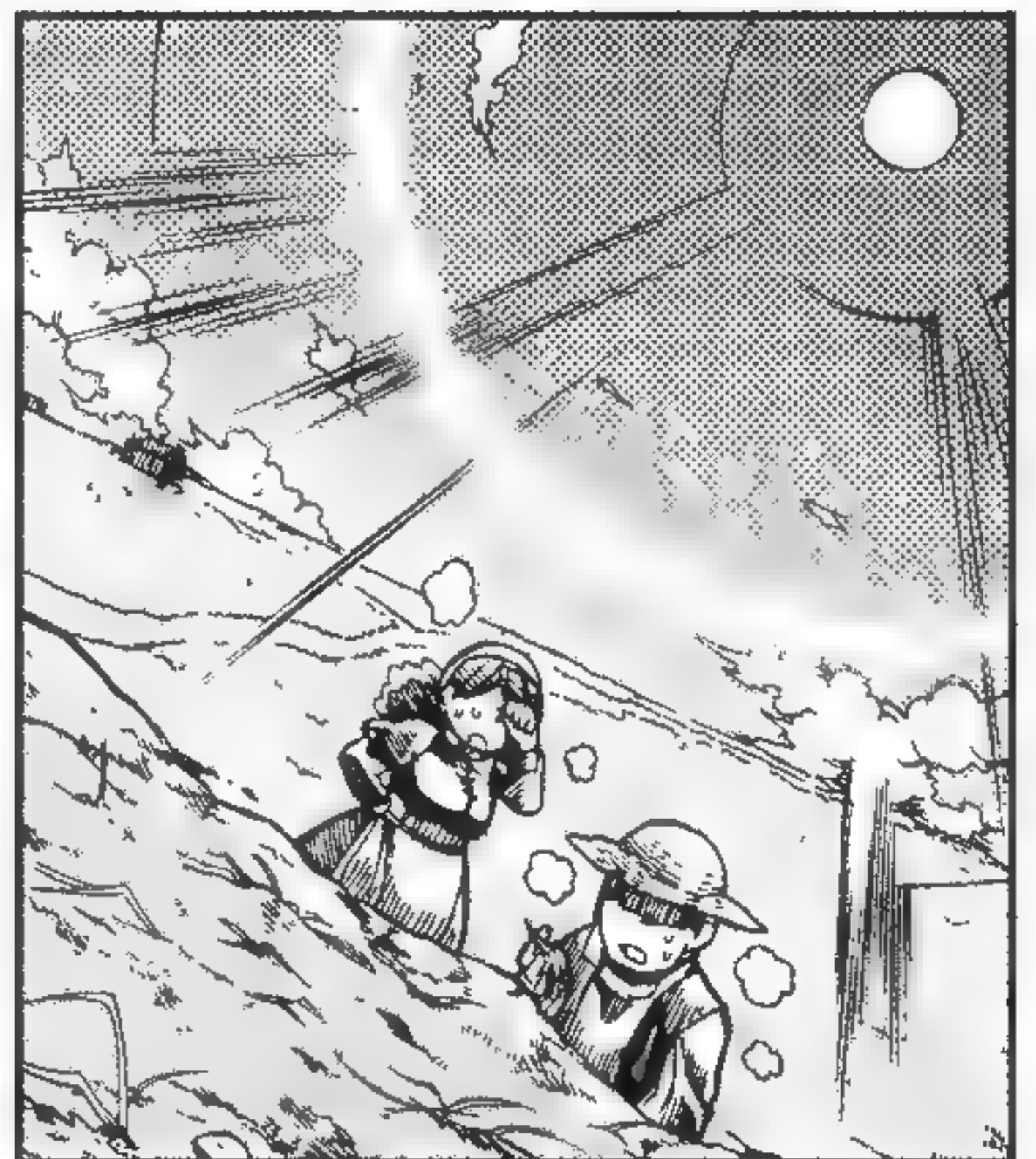
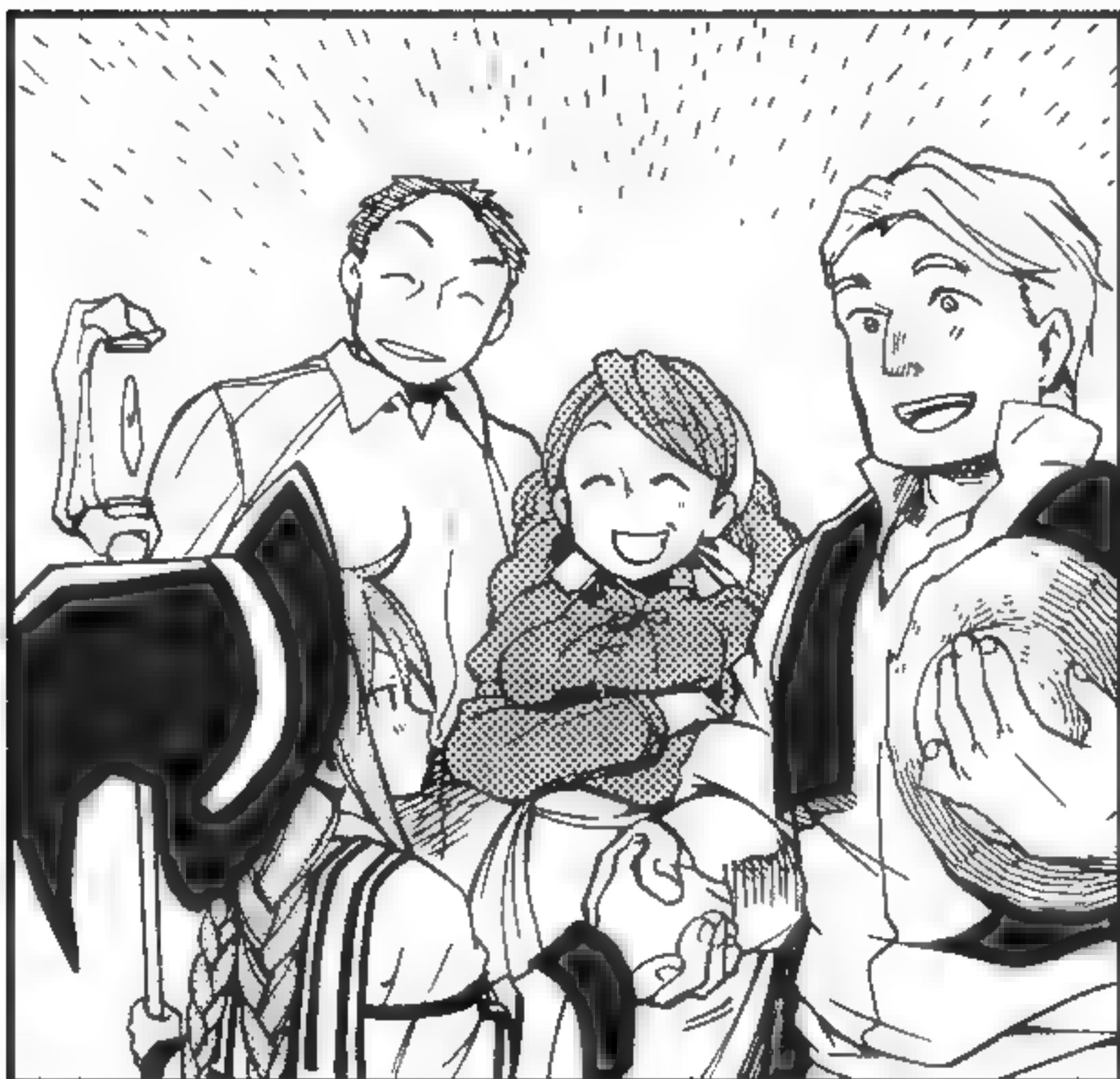
OH, IT'S STARTED. LET THE BABY-MAKING BEGIN!

SMIRK





SEVERAL
DAYS
LATER...





YAWN...

I LEARNED
A LOT MORE
ABOUT THE
AMOUNT OF
MAGIC POWER
NEEDED FOR
SPELLS, AND
THE RULES
GOVERNING
MAGIC TOO.



NO,
SHE
ISN'T.
I'M
SAFE.



IS
ROXY
LOOK-
ING...?

CRAP,
THAT'S
NO
GOOD.



THIS
SHOULD
BE GOOD
ENOUGH,
RIGHT?

I TRIED
REALLY
HARD...
DIDN'T I?



BUT...LATELY,
MY MAGIC
HASN'T BEEN
DRYING UP AS
QUICKLY AS
BEFORE.

KRRRR

KRRRR



HA!T



TWO YEARS HAVE PASSED SINCE ROXY'S ARRIVAL.

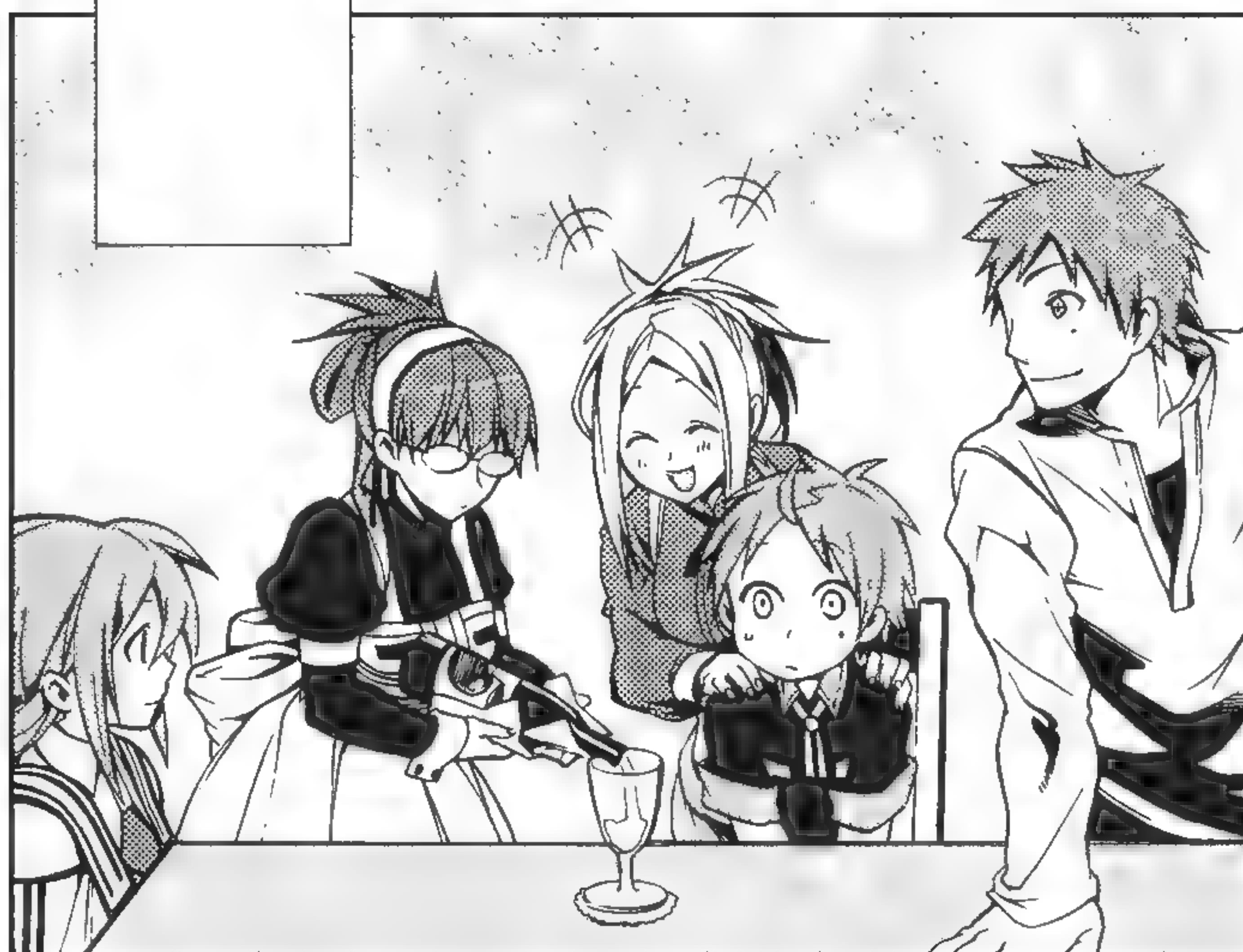
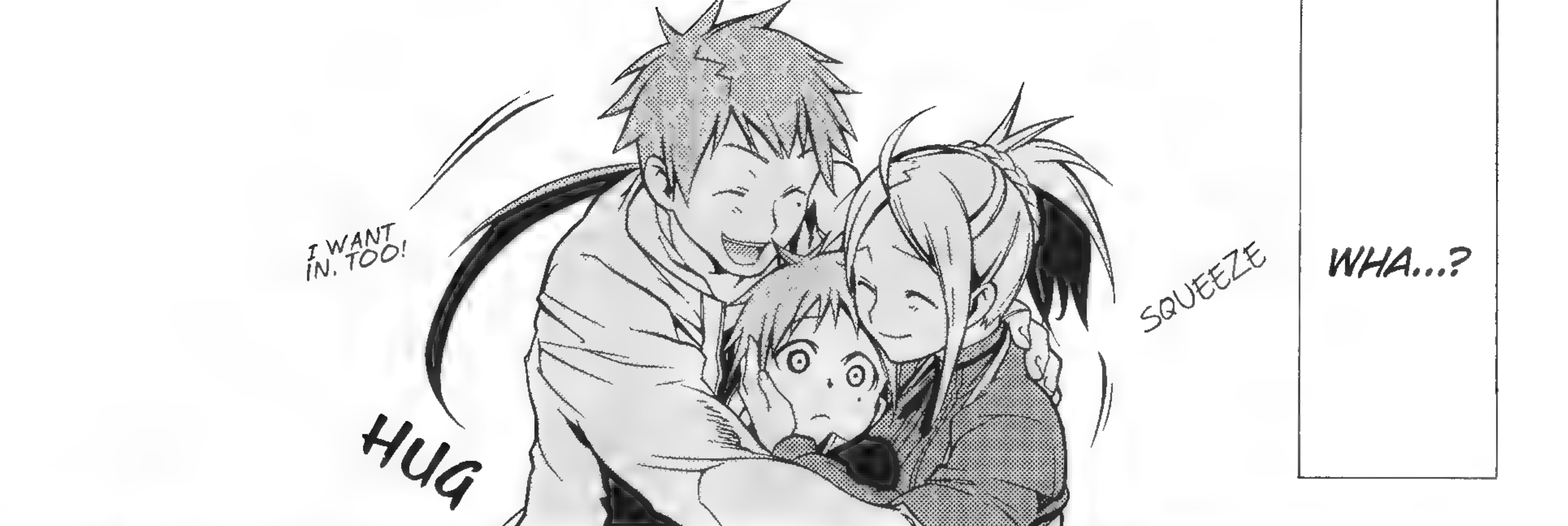


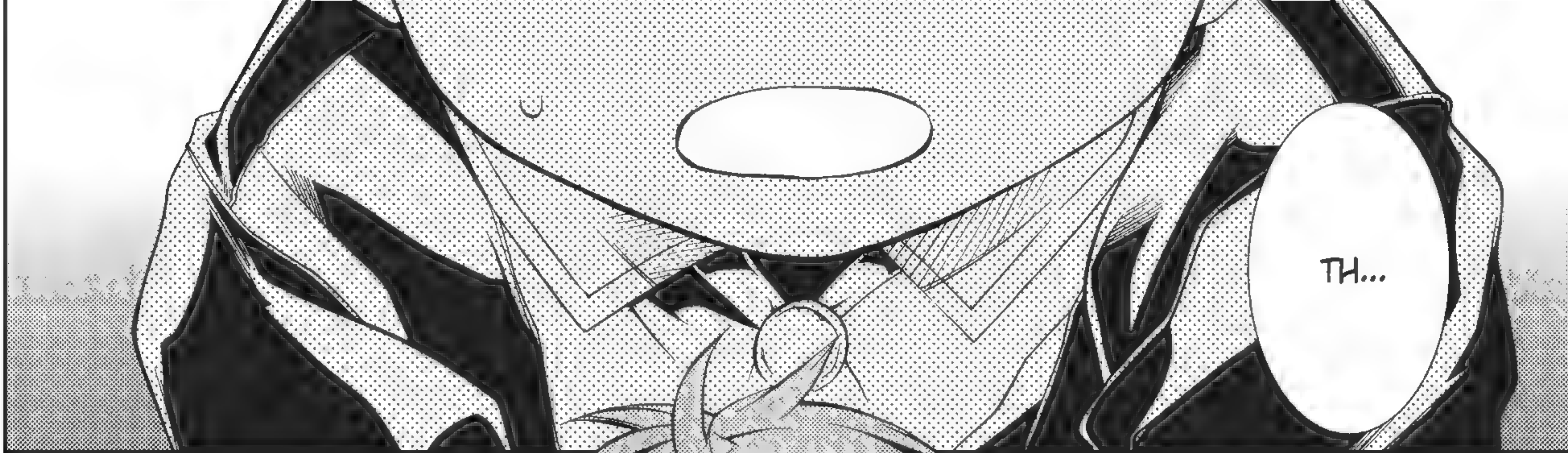
HAPPY
BIRTHDAY,
SWEETIE!!!

IT'S
RUDY'S
5TH
BIRTHDAY!!











THANK YOU
FOR THE
WONDERFUL
PRESENTS!

I
REALLY
WANTED
THESE!

...ISN'T
SO
BAD.

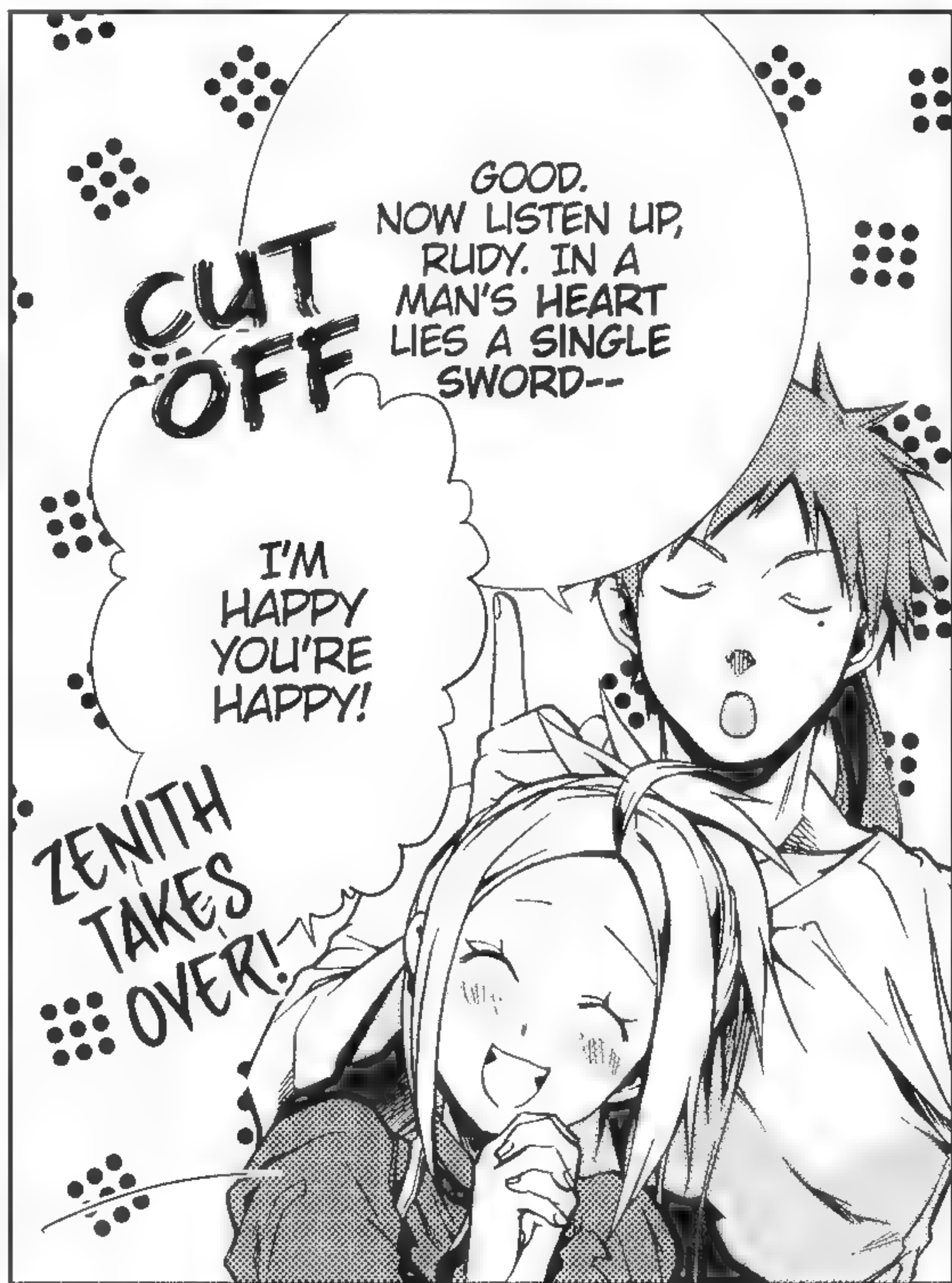
MOMMY
AND
DADDY!



RUDY...



IT'S
SMALL,
BUT I
HAVE A
PRESENT
FOR YOU,
TOO.

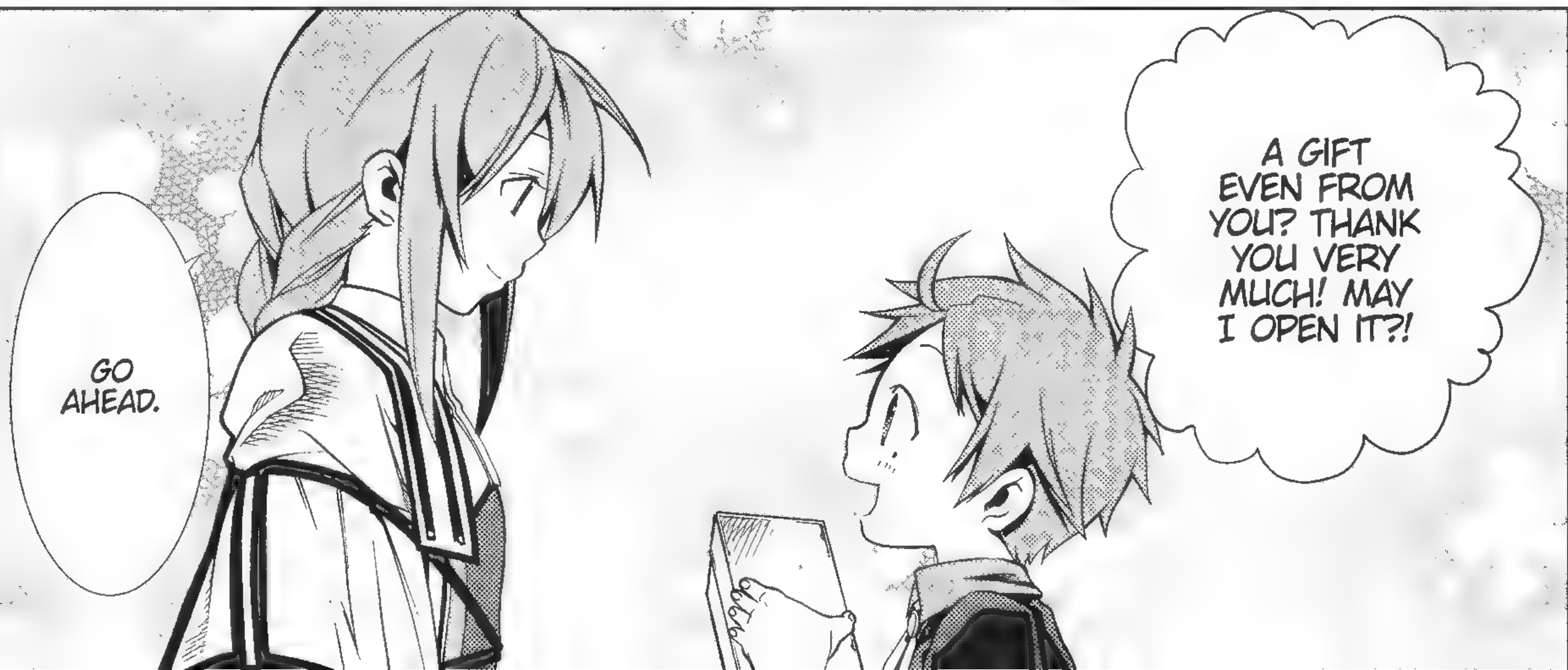


**CUT
OFF**

GOOD.
NOW LISTEN UP,
RUDY. IN A
MAN'S HEART
LIES A SINGLE
SWORD--

I'M
HAPPY
YOU'RE
HAPPY!

**ZENITH
TAKES
OVER!**



GO
AHEAD.

A GIFT
EVEN FROM
YOU? THANK
YOU VERY
MUCH! MAY
I OPEN IT?!

A
MASTER IS
SUPPOSED
TO MAKE
ONE FOR
HIS PUPIL
AFTER HE
MOVES ON
FROM
BASIC-LEVEL
SPELLS.

YOU'VE
BEEN ABLE
TO USE
MAGIC SINCE
BEFORE WE
MET, SO I
FORGOT,
BLT...

I'M
SORRY.

ROXY
FELT IT
WAS HER
DUTY AS A
"MASTER"....!

IT'S A
MAGIC
WAND!!

THIS
IS A--!

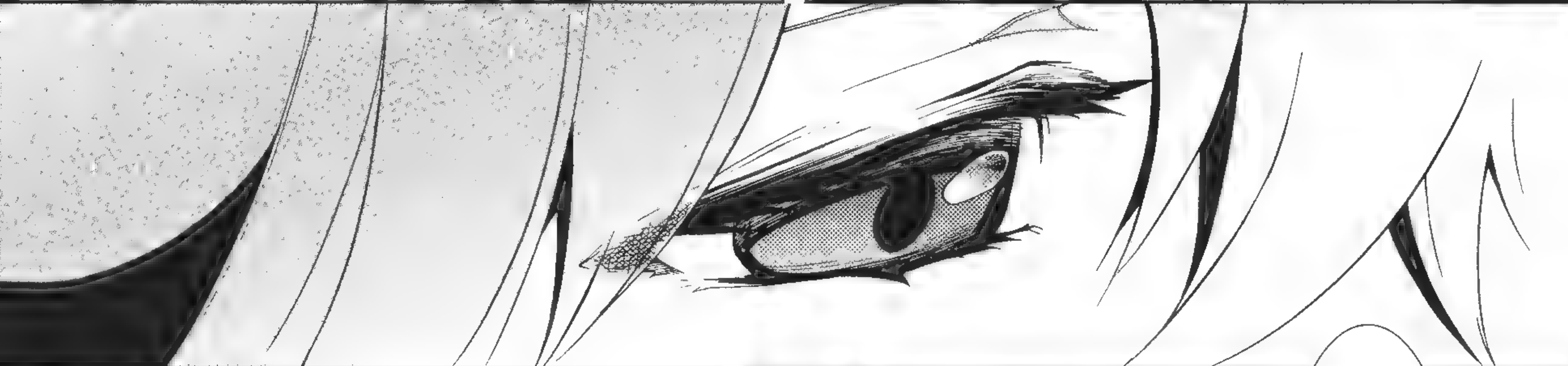
!

SHE





THANK
YOU VERY
MUCH,
MASTER!
I'LL
CHERISH
IT!



MA...
MASTER
...?



HOW-
EVER...

WITH THIS,
I HAVE
VERY LITTLE
LEFT TO
TEACH YOU.



**GRADUA-
TION!...?!**

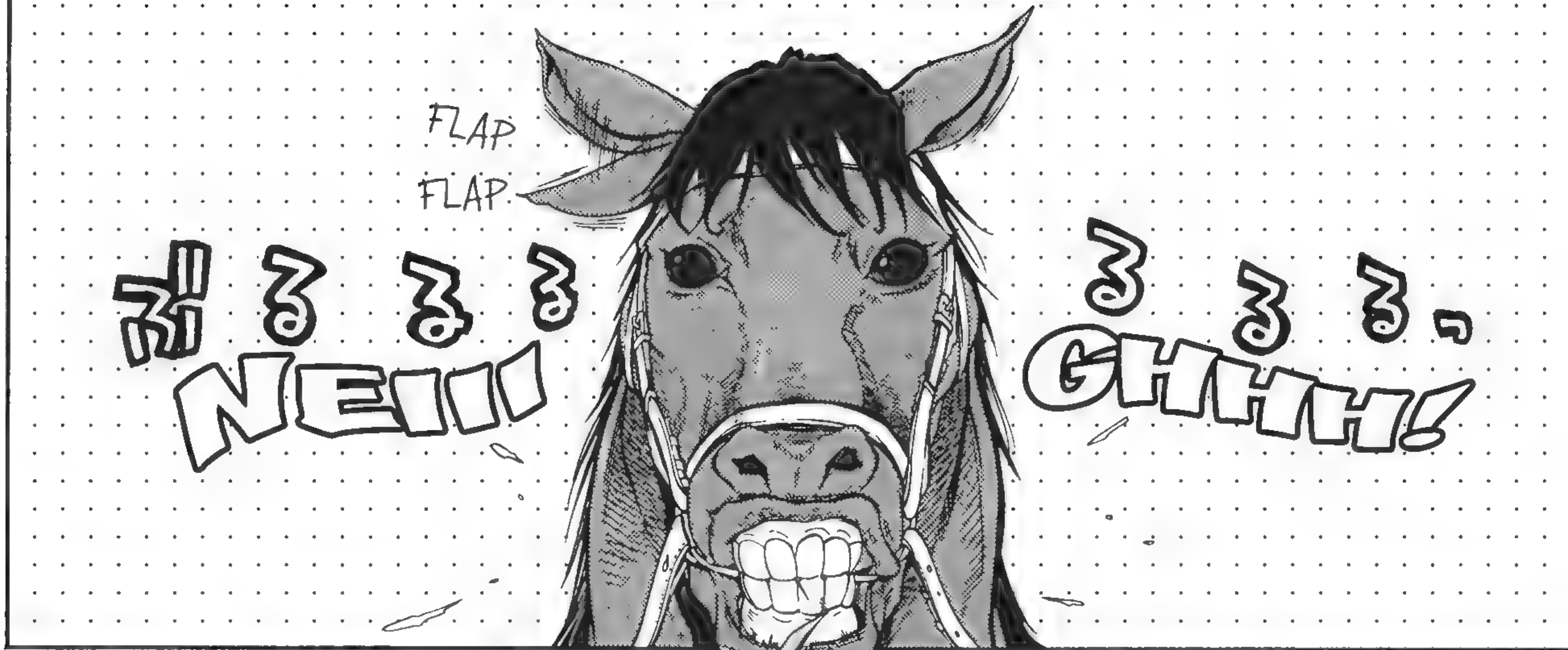


RUDY,
TOMORROW
WE WILL
HOLD YOUR
GRADUATION
EXAMINATION
OUTSIDE THE
VILLAGE.



Chapter 3

THE REASON FOR RESPECT

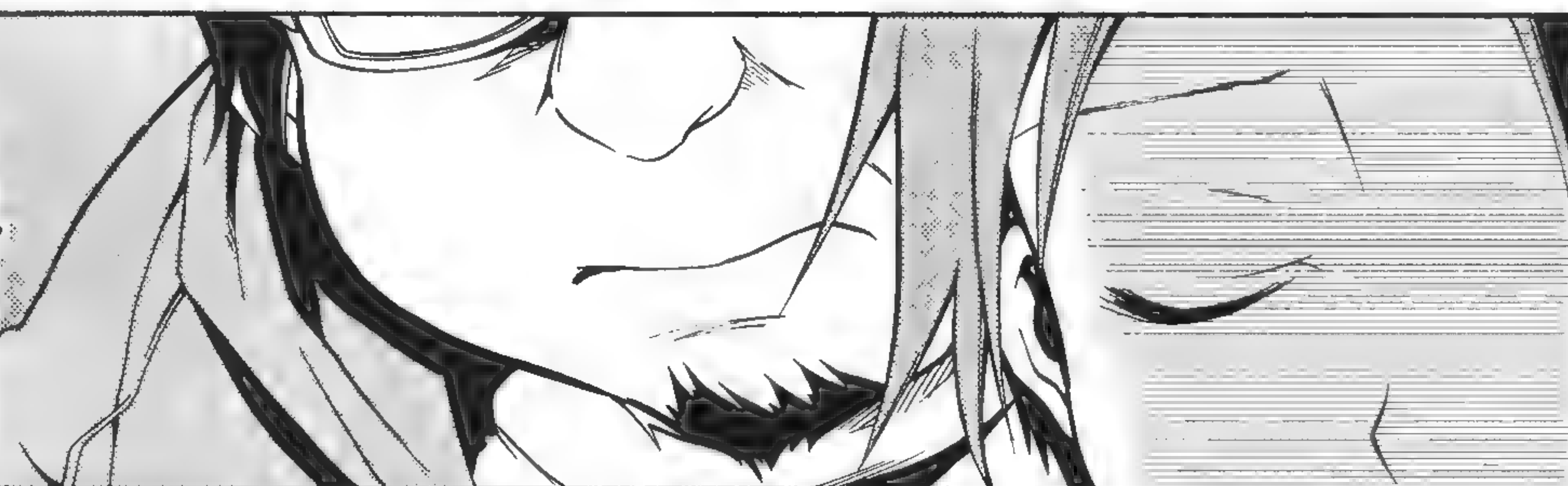




IN THIS AREA, AS LONG AS WE DON'T GO NEAR THE FOREST, WE WON'T BE ATTACKED BY MONSTERS.



IN MY PREVIOUS LIFE, I HAD COUNTLESS DELUSIONS ABOUT THE WORLD OUTSIDE MY APARTMENT.



BUT I ALWAYS WOKE UP FROM THEM.





THAT
FEELING
OF BEING
CRUSHED
BY MY
REGRETS.

SIGH...



IF I
TOOK EVEN
ONE STEP
OUTSIDE
OF THE
HOUSE...

IF THIS
WORLD
IS A
DREAM
AS WELL...



ALL
OF MY
DESPAIR
MIGHT COME
FLOODING
BACK.

IF ALL
THIS
ENDED...



THE
HORSE.

MNCH

IT'S A
LITTLE
SCARY,
ISN'T
IT?

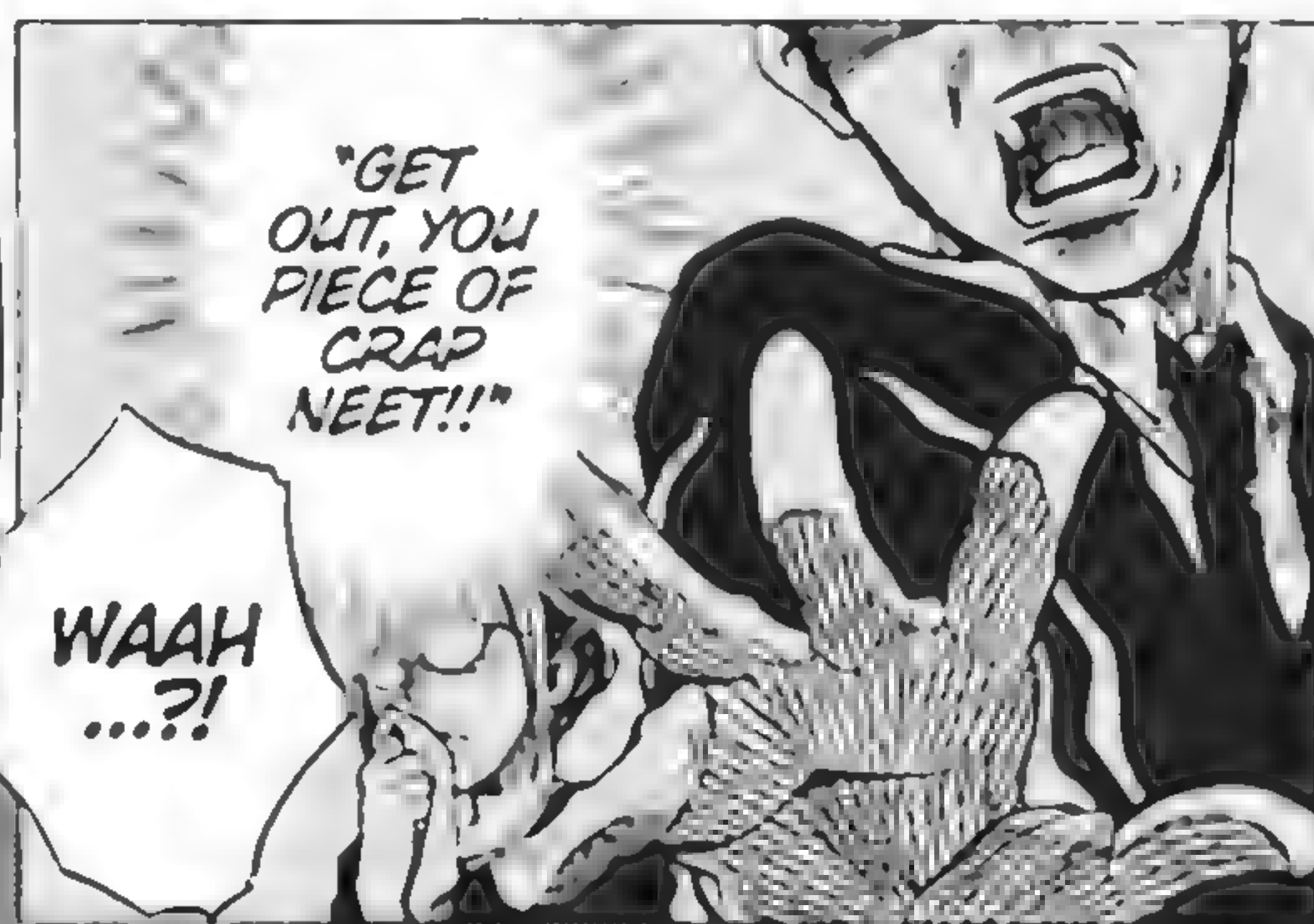
DID YOU
HEAR ME,
RUDY?
LET'S BE
ON OUR
WAY.

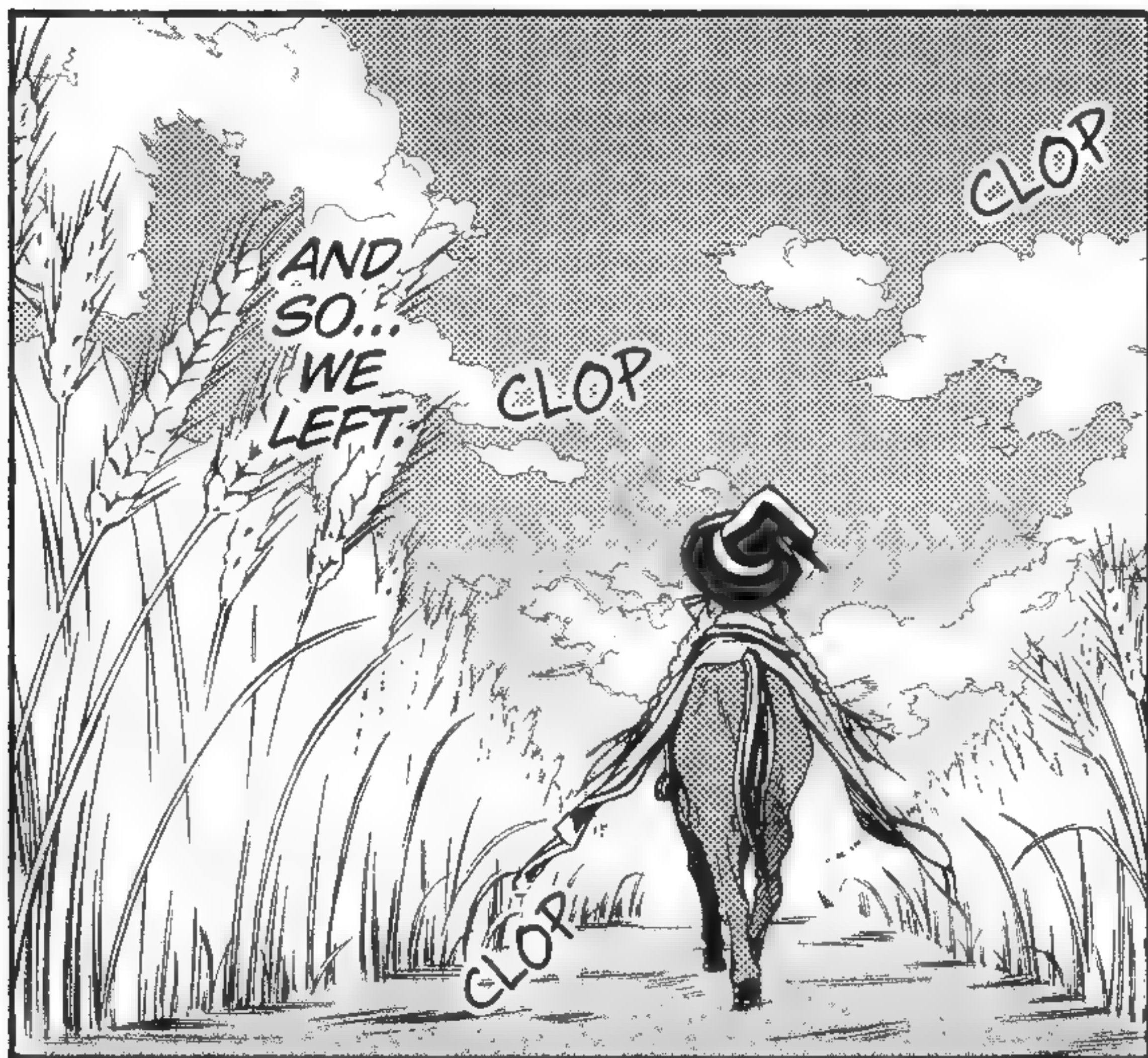
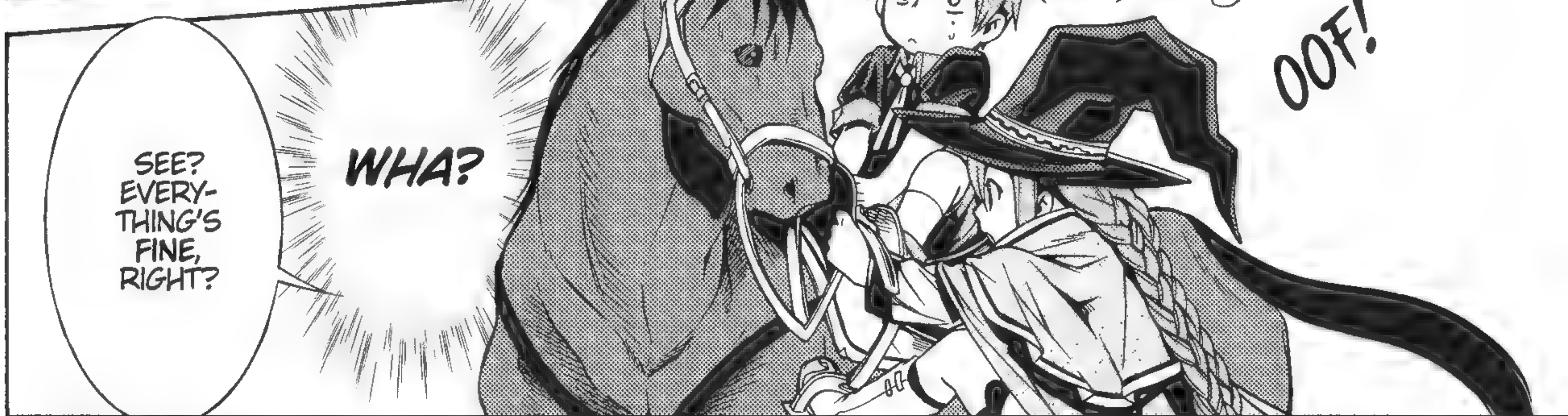
I'M
RELIEVED
TO SEE
YOU STILL
HAVE
SOME AGE-
APPROPRIATE
QUALITIES.

N-NO!
HORSES
ARE
FINE...!

MNCH

WHAT?









THE
INCAN-
TATION
IS...

THIS
TECHNIQUE
REQUIRES THAT
YOU CREATE A
CLOUD COVERING
A VAST AREA AND
HAVE IT PRODUCE
RAIN. YOU WILL
PASS IF YOU CAN
MAKE IT RAIN
FOR LONGER
THAN ONE
HOUR.

THE
SAINT-LEVEL
WATER
MAGIC,
"CUMULO-
NIMBUS."

TODAY,
I'LL HAVE
YOU USE A
SPELL MORE
DIFFICULT
THAN EVEN
ADVANCED-
LEVEL...

ALL OF
THIS IS
THANKS
TO ROXY.



CRUNCH

IT'S A
DIFFERENT
FEELING FROM
THE GARDEN.
THE SOFTNESS
OF THE SOIL
AND GRASS...

CRUNCH

CRUNCH

I ALWAYS
HOPED THERE
WOULD BE A
DAY WHEN I
WOULD FEEL
THESE
THINGS...



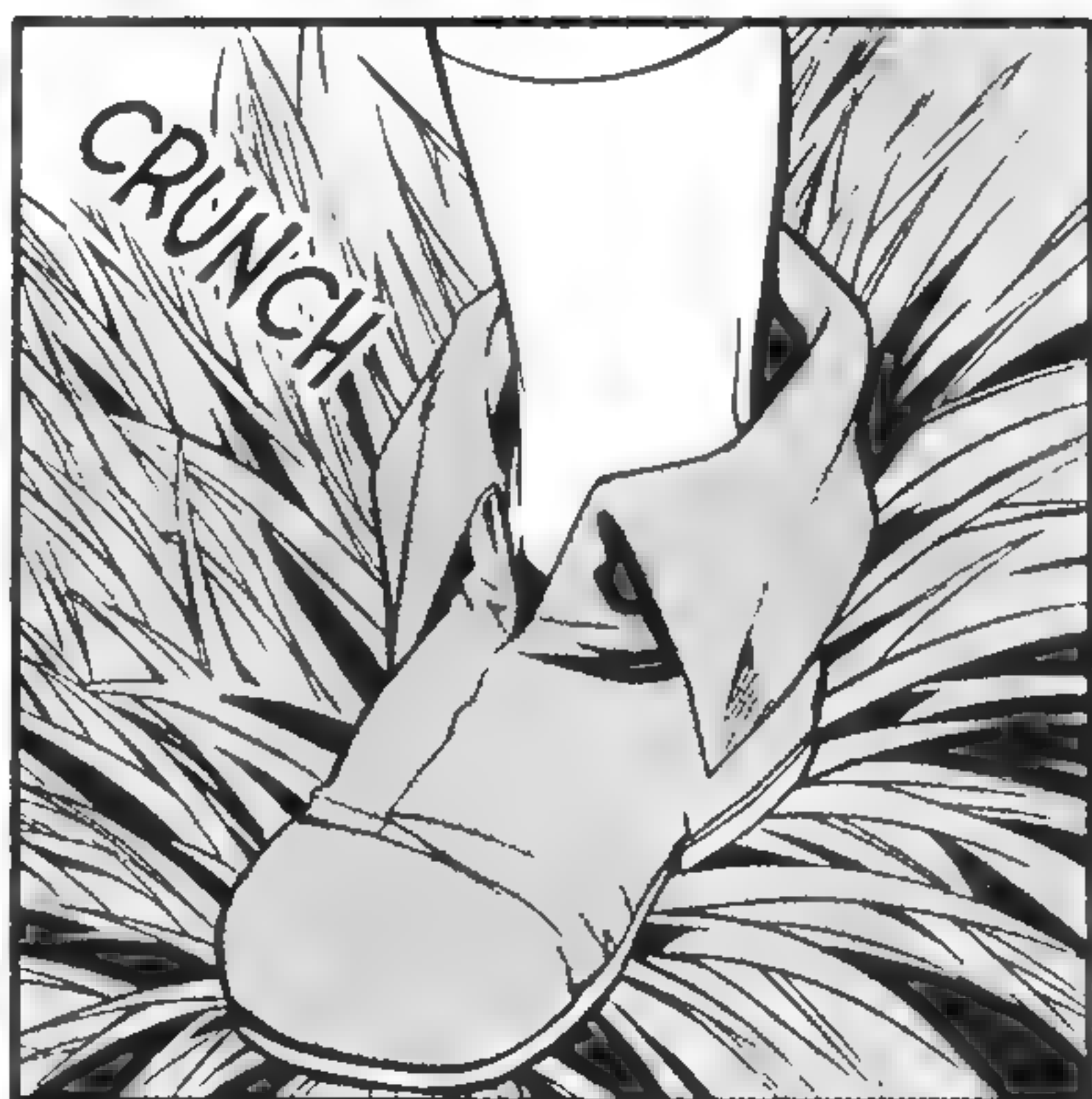
OKAY.

...AND
THAT'S
IT.

GO
AHEAD
AND
TRY IT.



CRUNCH



RIGHT
NOW,
I FEEL
LIKE I
COULD
DO ANY-
THING!!

DA-DAN





GRACE
US WITH
A DISPLAY
OF YOUR
STRENGTH...

HEAR
MY PRAYER
AND GRANT
US YOUR
WICKED
BLESSING...

GREAT
WATER
SPIRIT AND
SON OF THE
THUNDER DEITY,
ASCEND INTO
HEAVEN!

MURMUR
むる
むる

MURMUR
むる
むる

MURMUR
むる
むる



RUMBLE
らむる

THE
CLOUDS
SEEM
TO BE
GATHER-
ING
NICELY...

OH,
GOOD!

BY
FLOOD-
ING THIS
LAND WITH
WATER!!

RMB
RMB

STRIKE
YOUR
GODLY
HAMMER
ONTO THE
ANVIL, AND
DRIVE FEAR
INTO OUR
HEARTS...



AND
KEEPING
MY ARMS
UP FOR A
WHOLE HOUR
IS GOING TO
BE REALLY
HARD--
AH!

AW,
COME ON!
YOU CAN'T
BE SERIOUS!
IF I DON'T
KEEP THE
MAGIC UP, THE
CLOUDS
SEPARATE?!



FW
PSSH
PSSH
PSSH

HUH?!

THAT'S THE "CUMULO-NIMBUS."

PLIP

PLO

PLIP

PLO

I SEE NOW! IF I MAKE CLOUDS WHILE MOVING THEM IN A CERTAIN PATTERN, THEY'LL BECOME THUNDER-CLOUDS.

THAT'S THE "CUMULO-NIMBUS."

PLIP

PLO

PLIP

PLO

I SEE NOW! IF I MAKE CLOUDS WHILE MOVING THEM IN A CERTAIN PATTERN, THEY'LL BECOME THUNDER-CLOUDS.

NOW,
COOL THE
AIR ON
TOP AND
INCREASE
THE SPEED
OF THE
UPPER
CURRENT...!

RAIN!!

WASH
OVER
EVERY-
THING...

IF I
COMBINE
OTHER TYPES
OF MAGIC
WHILE
MAKING THE
CLOUDS, I
SHOULD BE
ABLE TO
SUSTAIN
THEM. ALL
RIGHT, LET'S
GIVE IT A
SHOT!

I THINK I
REMEMBER
WATCHING
SOME
DISCOVERY
SPECIALS
ABOUT THIS,
CALLED "HOW
CLOUDS ARE
FORMED" AND
"SUPERCCELL
THUNDER-
STORMS."

IF I
COMBINE
OTHER TYPES
OF MAGIC
WHILE
MAKING THE
CLOUDS, I
SHOULD BE
ABLE TO
SUSTAIN
THEM. ALL
RIGHT, LET'S
GIVE IT A
SHOT!

I THINK I
REMEMBER
WATCHING
SOME
DISCOVERY
SPECIALS
ABOUT THIS,
CALLED "HOW
CLOUDS ARE
FORMED" AND
"SUPERCCELL
THUNDER-
STORMS."

IT'S NO GOOD, IF I DEVOTE ANY LESS ENERGY TOWARD MAKING CLOUDS, THEY'LL DISPERSE.

THIS IS TOUGHER THAN I THOUGHT.

IT'S NO GOOD, IF I DEVOTE ANY LESS ENERGY TOWARD MAKING CLOUDS, THEY'LL DISPERSE.

THIS IS TOUGHER THAN I THOUGHT.

WHILE I INCREASE THE AIR CURRENT, I SHOULD WARM THE AIR BELOW IT... OH!

CRACK

HOWL

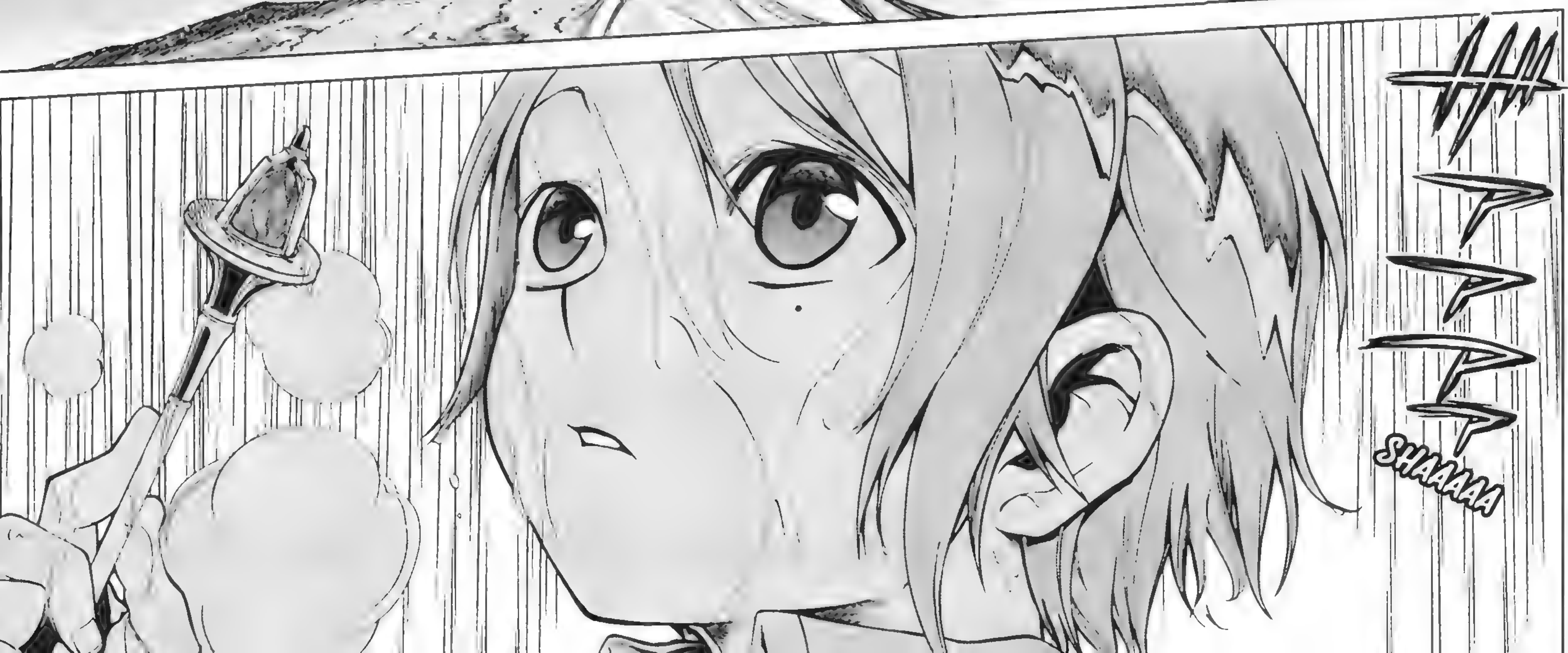
WHILE I INCREASE THE AIR CURRENT, I SHOULD WARM THE AIR BELOW IT... OH!

CRACK

HOWL

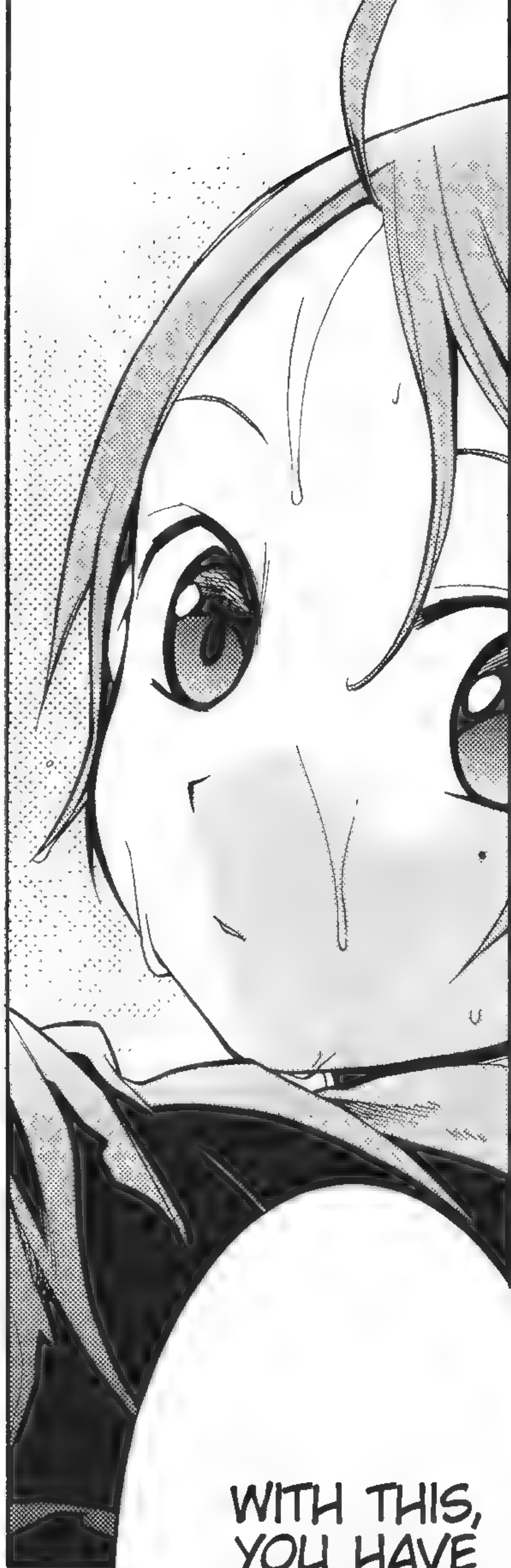
OKAY, IT'S STABILIZING.

FRROOR









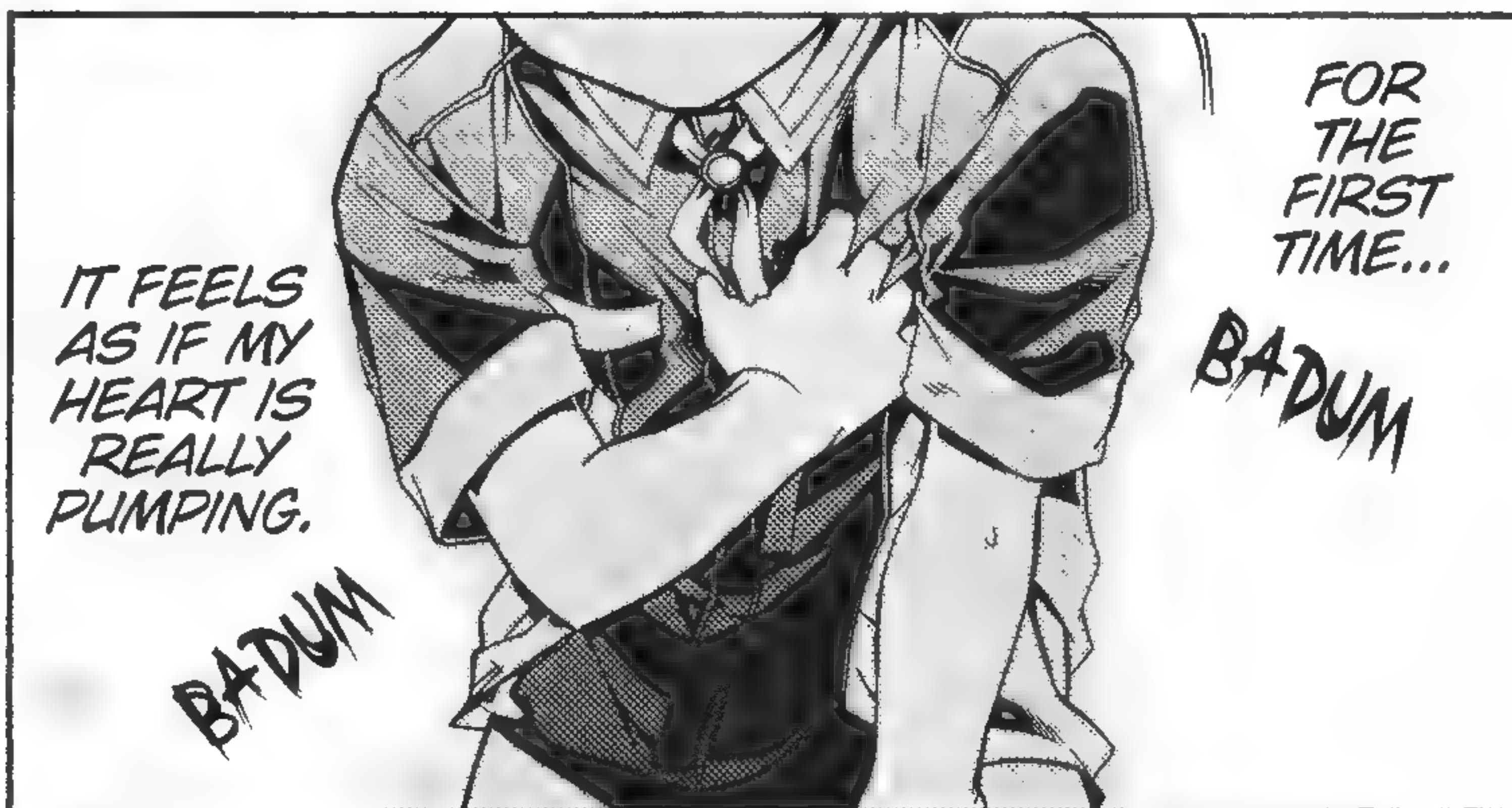
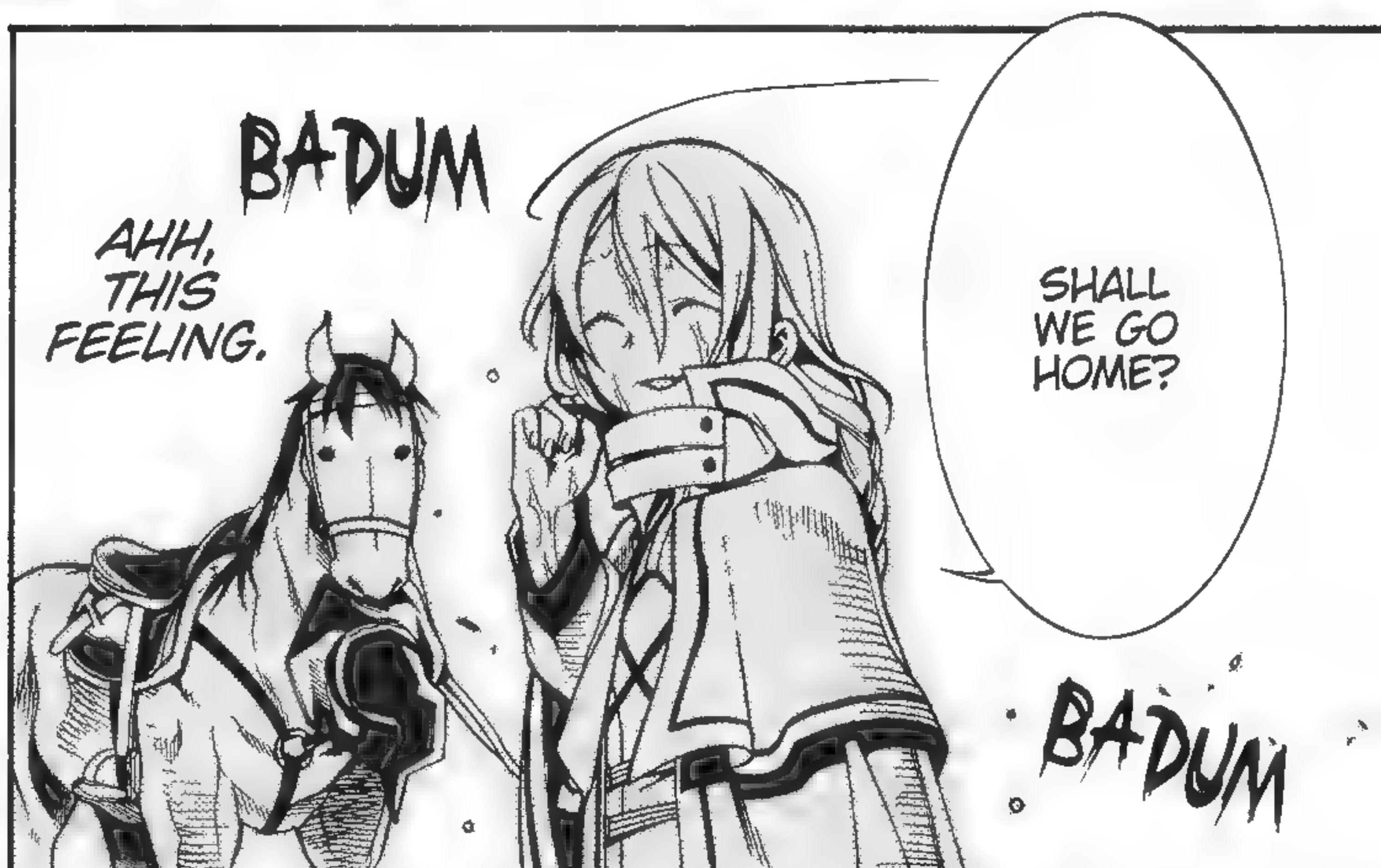
WITH THIS,
YOU HAVE
MASTERED
SAINT-LEVEL
MAGIC.



CONGRATU-
LATIONS.



NOW I
KNOW THIS
FEELING.



THIS
IS...



THAT'S
RIGHT. YOU
WERE SUCH
A GREAT
HELP DURING
LAST YEAR'S
DROUGHT.

ROXY, IT'S
PERFECTLY
FINE IF
YOU'D LIKE
TO STAY
LONGER.

I'M
SORRY.



AND THANK
YOU, BUT
DURING THIS
STAY, I'VE
BECOME AWARE
OF MY OWN
WEAKNESSES.



FOR THE
TIME BEING,
I PLAN TO
TRAVEL THE
WORLD AND
POLISH MY
OWN MAGIC
SKILLS.

I
SEE...

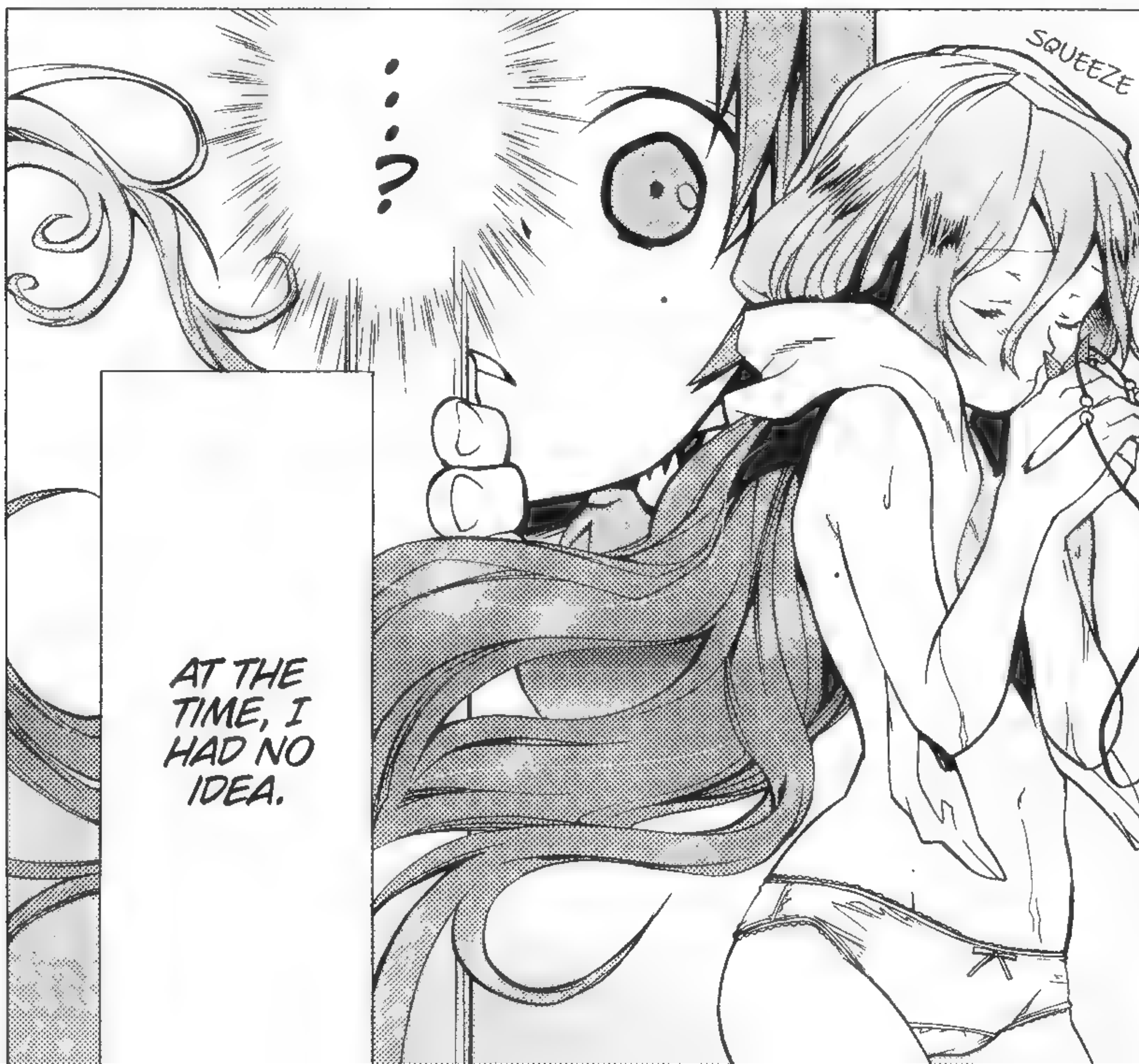
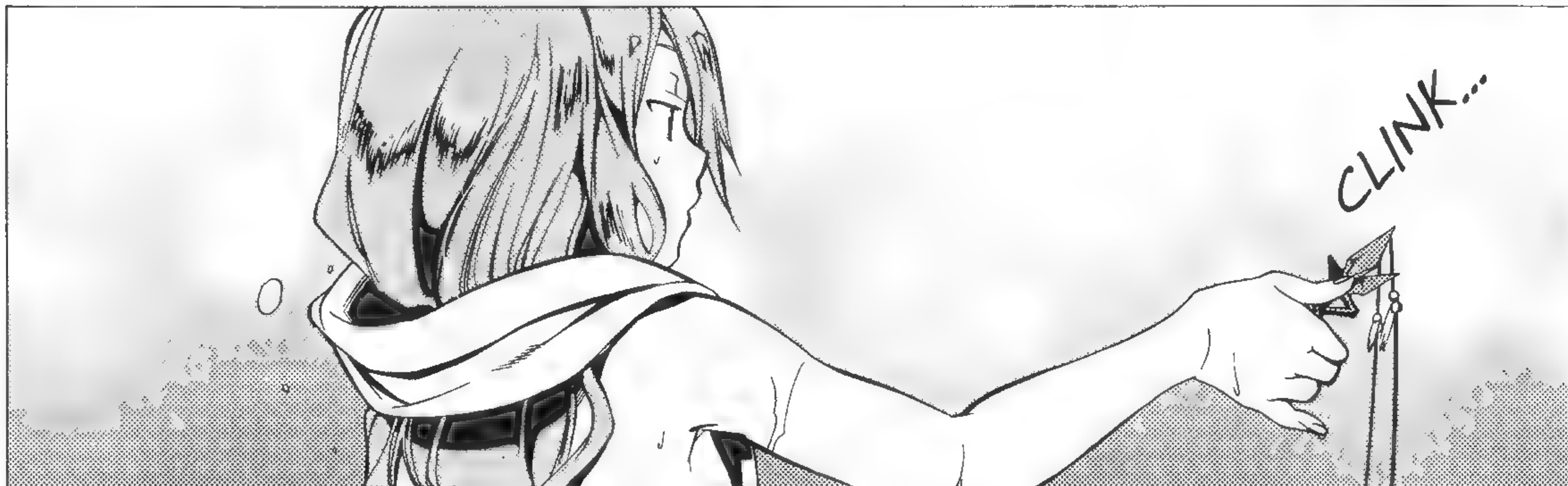


THE
FEELING
OF
ACCOM-
PLISHMENT.

THANK
YOU,
GREYRAT
FAMILY.

YOU'VE
TAKEN
SUCH GOOD
CARE OF
ME FOR THE
PAST TWO
YEARS.








IF YOU
DO, THEN
I'LL BE
GLAD.

AND...

I'LL...
CHERISH
IT.

SO IT'S A
MIGURD
CHARM...
WHY WOULD
SHE MAKE
SOMETHING
SO SPECIAL
FOR ME?



I GRADUATED
FROM THERE.
YOU'D FIND
MANY WONDERFUL
FACILITIES AND
PROFESSORS
TO HELP YOU
CONTINUE YOUR
STUDIES.

IF YOU
DECIDE YOU
WANT TO
CONTINUE YOUR
TRAINING, I
RECOMMEND
YOU GO TO
THE RANOA
UNIVERSITY
OF MAGIC.

GRIN

I'LL
BE OFF
NOW.

TAKE
CARE!



SHE
REALLY
DID SO
MUCH
FOR ME.



KNOWLEDGE...
EXPERIENCE...
TECHNIQUE.



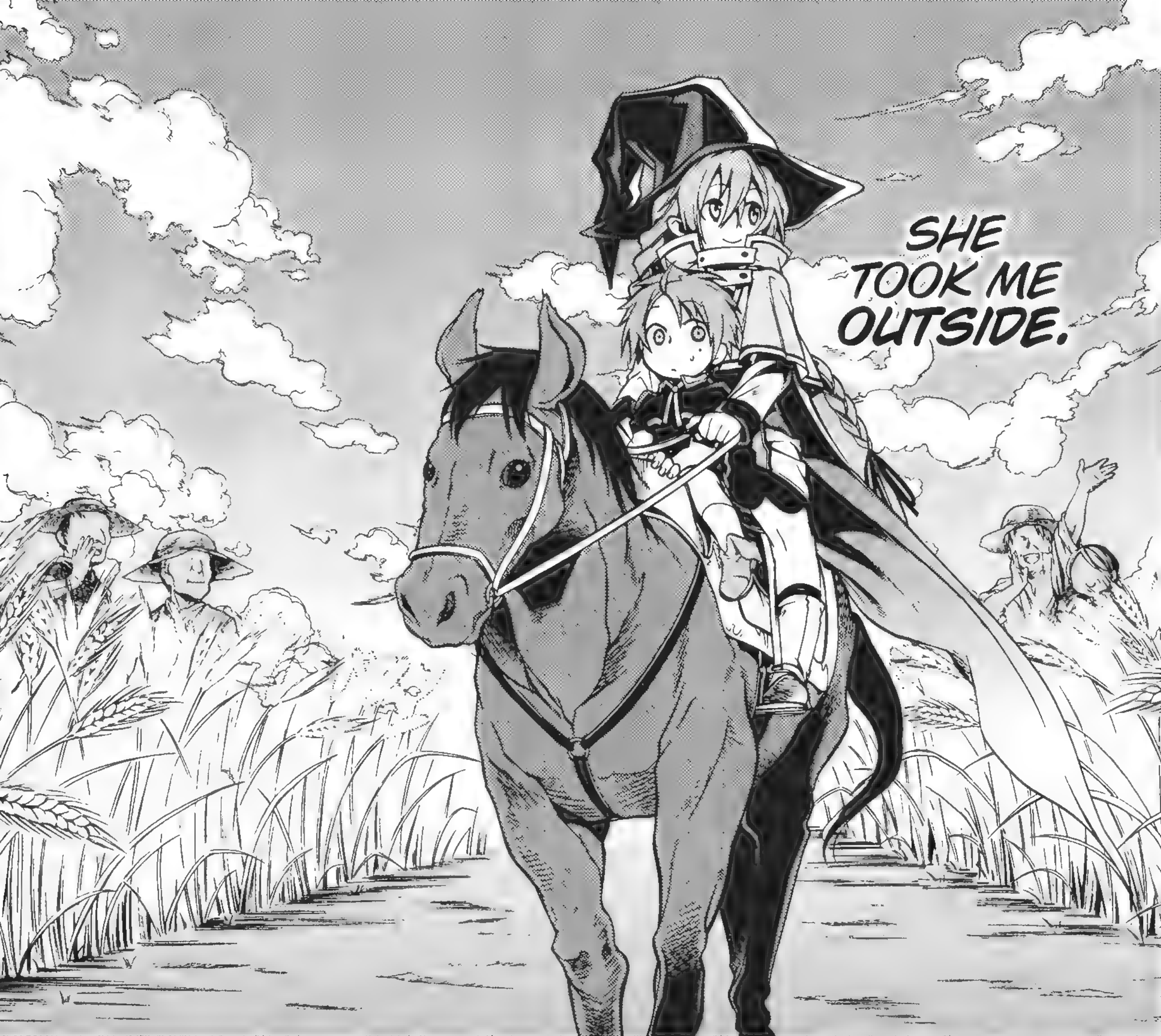
SHE
GAVE ME A
FEELING OF
ACCOM-
PLISHMENT.
I HAVEN'T
FELT SINCE
MY PREVIOUS
LIFE. AND
MORE THAN
ANYTHING
ELSE...

BA-DUM



ROXY...

SNIFFLE... SNIFF



SHE
TOOK ME
OUTSIDE.

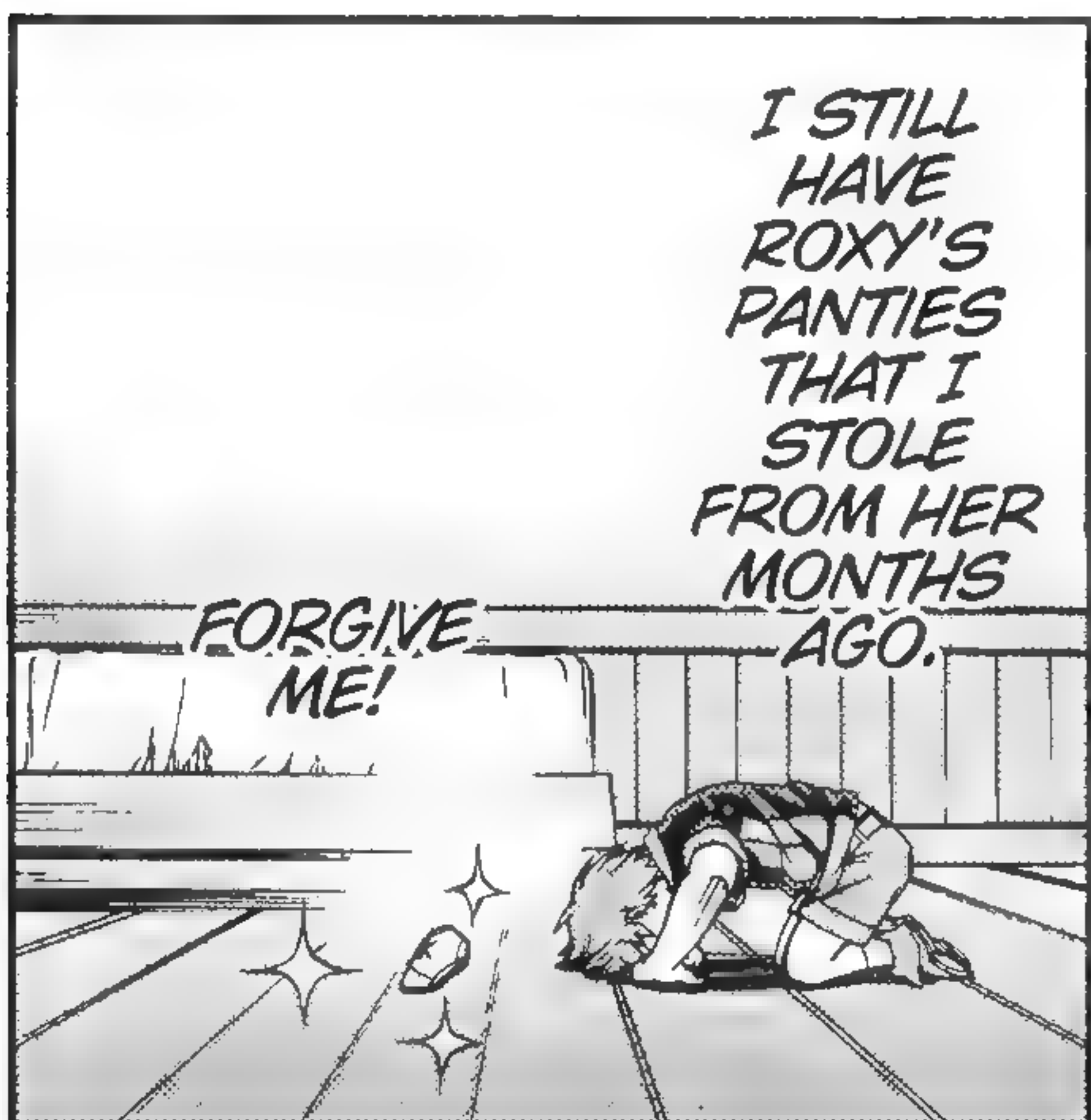
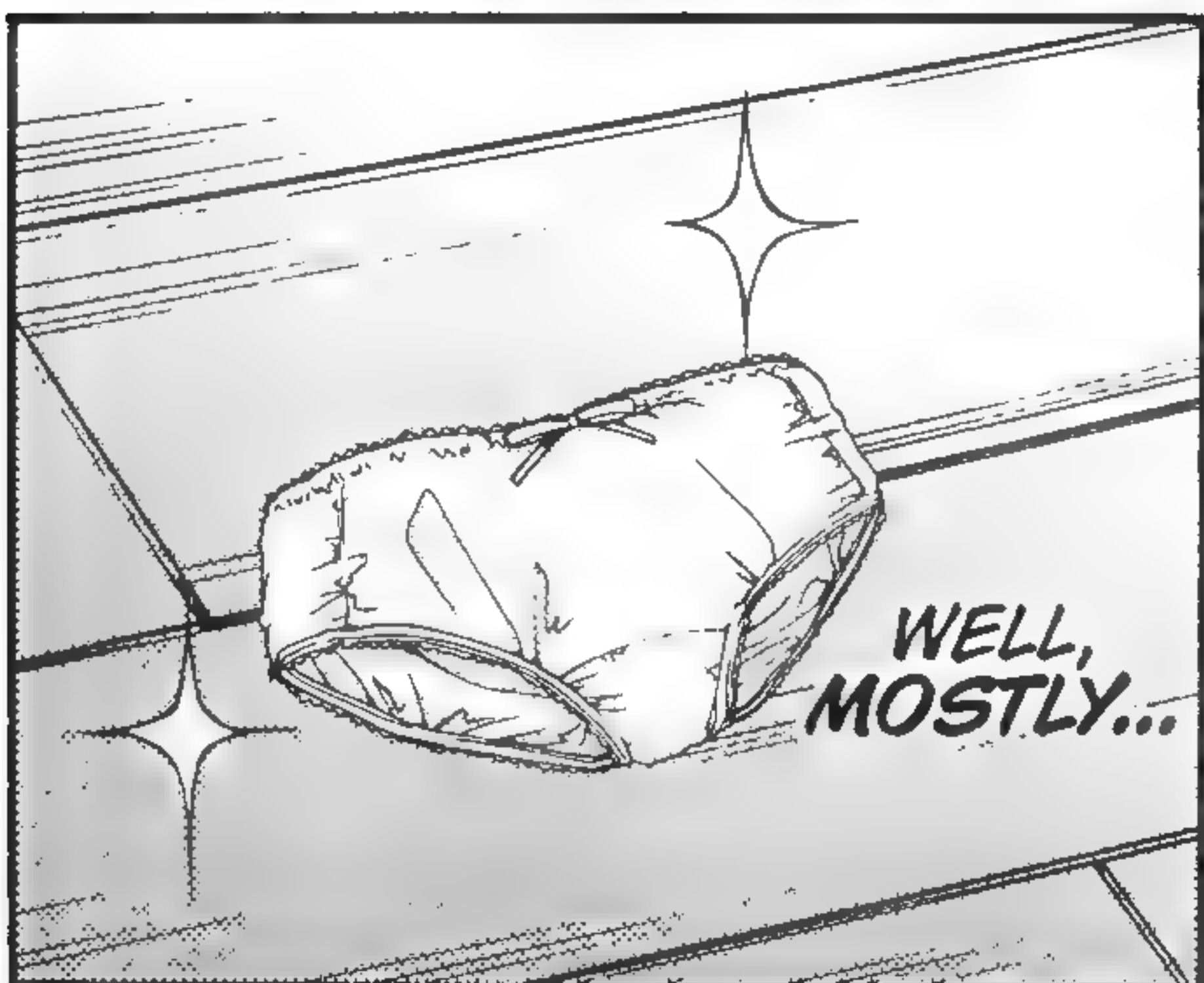


WHO DID
SOMETHING
FOR ME THAT
NO ONE IN
MY PAST LIFE
COULD. NOT
MY PARENTS,
SIBLINGS,
OR ANYONE
ELSE.

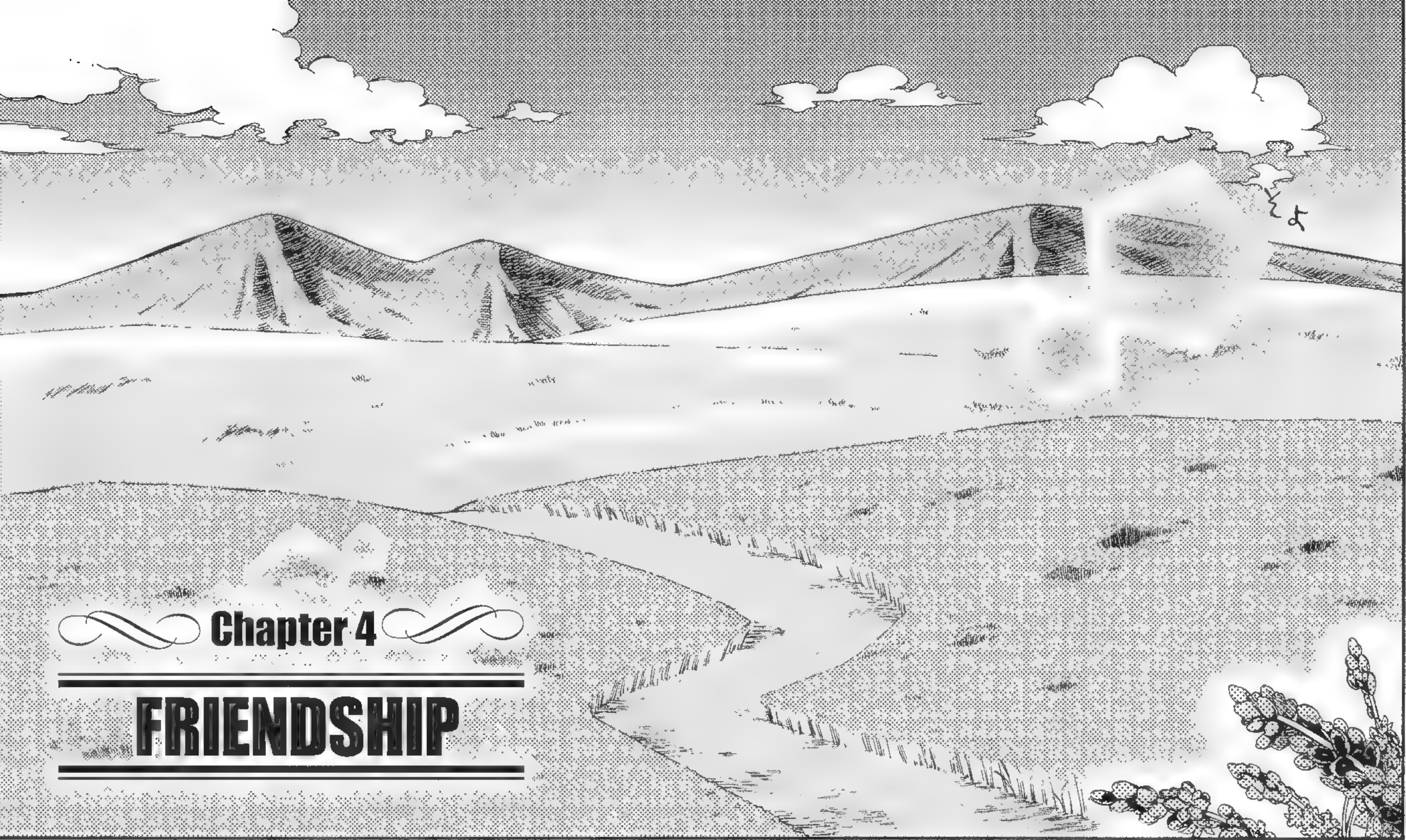


NOT
PAUL,
NOT
ZENITH,
BUT IT
WAS
HER...-

WHO WAS
MET WITH
SUSPICION
BY THE
VILLAGERS,
SIMPLY FOR
BEING A
DEMON...-

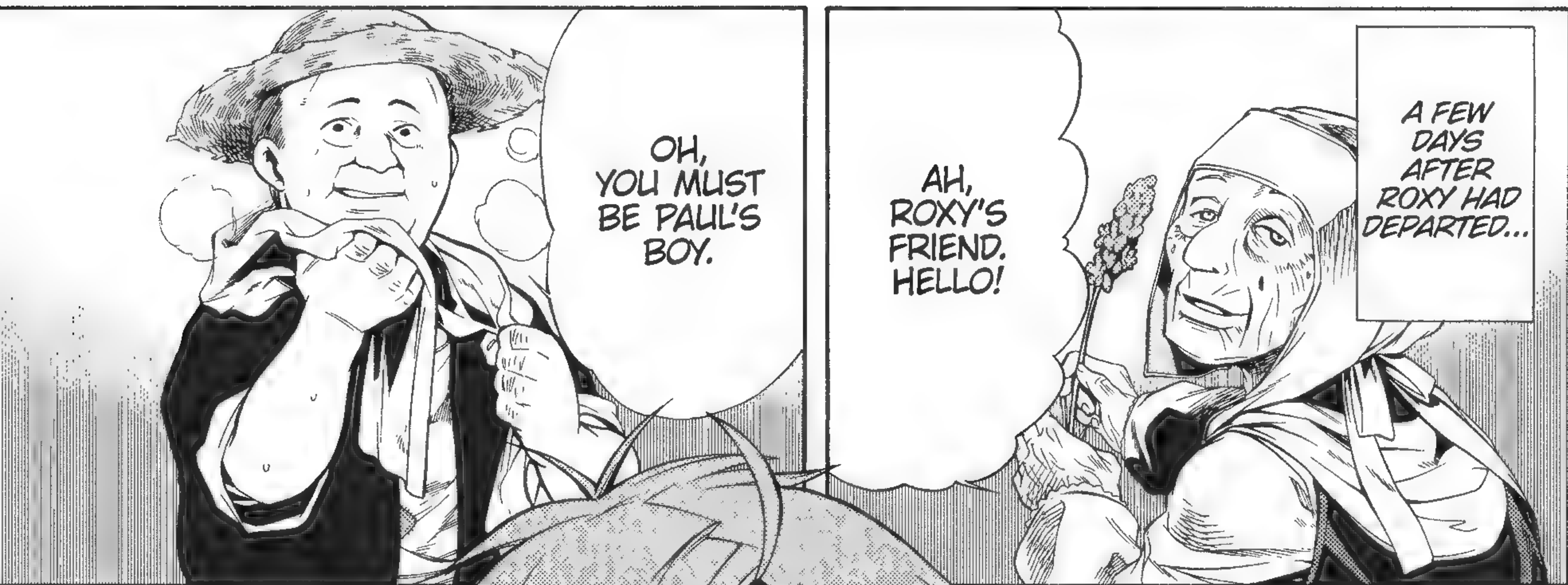


AND SO
I DON'T
DISGRACE
HER...



Chapter 4

FRIENDSHIP



OH,
YOU MUST
BE PAUL'S
BOY.

AH,
ROXY'S
FRIEND.
HELLO!

A FEW
DAYS
AFTER
ROXY HAD
DEPARTED...



SINCE I
WAS NO
LONGER
AFRAID
OF GOING
OUTSIDE OR
TALKING
WITH
OTHERS...

YES! I'M
RUDELUS
GREYRAT!



I WILL
CHERISH
THIS GIFT
FROM GOD
FOREVER!

I HAVEN'T
FELT THIS
REFRESHED
IN A LONG
TIME... AND
IT'S ALL
THANKS TO
ROXY.



SO
THIS IS
CALLED
THE
VATIRUS
FLOWER...

I STARTED
TAKING
THE PLANT
DICTIONARY
ZENITH GAVE
ME AND
GOING FOR
WALKS IN
THE VILLAGE.



GULP!

MONSTERS
CAN'T COME
INTO OUR
VILLAGE--



ALL
RIGHT,
NOW
WHAT'S
THAT HUGE
TREE
OVER
THERE?
IT'LL MAKE A
GOOD
LAND-
MARK.



THOSE
VOICES,
CLEARLY
OPPRESSING
THE WEAK...

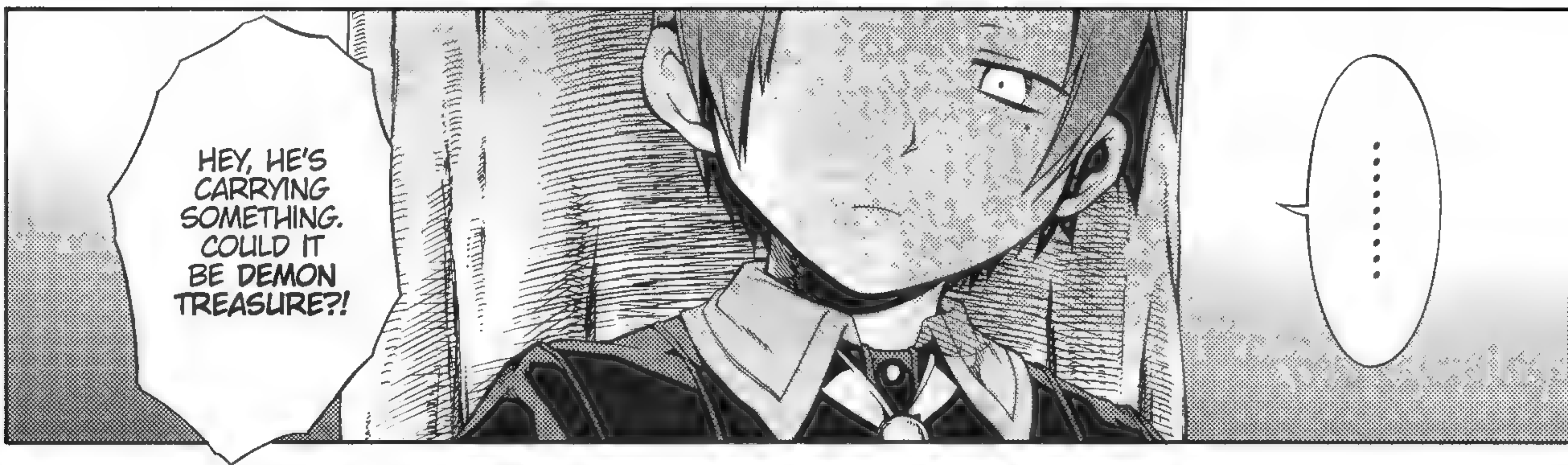
THEY JUST
BRING UP
NOTHING
BUT BAD
MEMORIES.

YEAH!
TAKE
THAT, YOU
FREAK!

COME ON,
GIVE ME A
BREAK. I WAS
JUST STARTING
TO THINK THAT
PEOPLE WERE
GOOD...

GET
LOST,
TUBBY!









DASH

HEY,
YOU, ARE
YOU OKAY?
IS YOUR
STUFF ALL
RIGHT?

HM...



YES...

WOW...!



WHAT A
PRETTY
BOY....!!



HE'S SO
SUBMISSIVE!!

L-LIKE
SO?

SQUEE!



GO AND
KNEEL BY
THAT LITTLE
WATERWAY
OVER
THERE.

WE CAN'T
HAVE THAT
FACE COVERED
IN MUD.
LET'S GET
HIM CLEANED
UP.

UM...
OKAY?



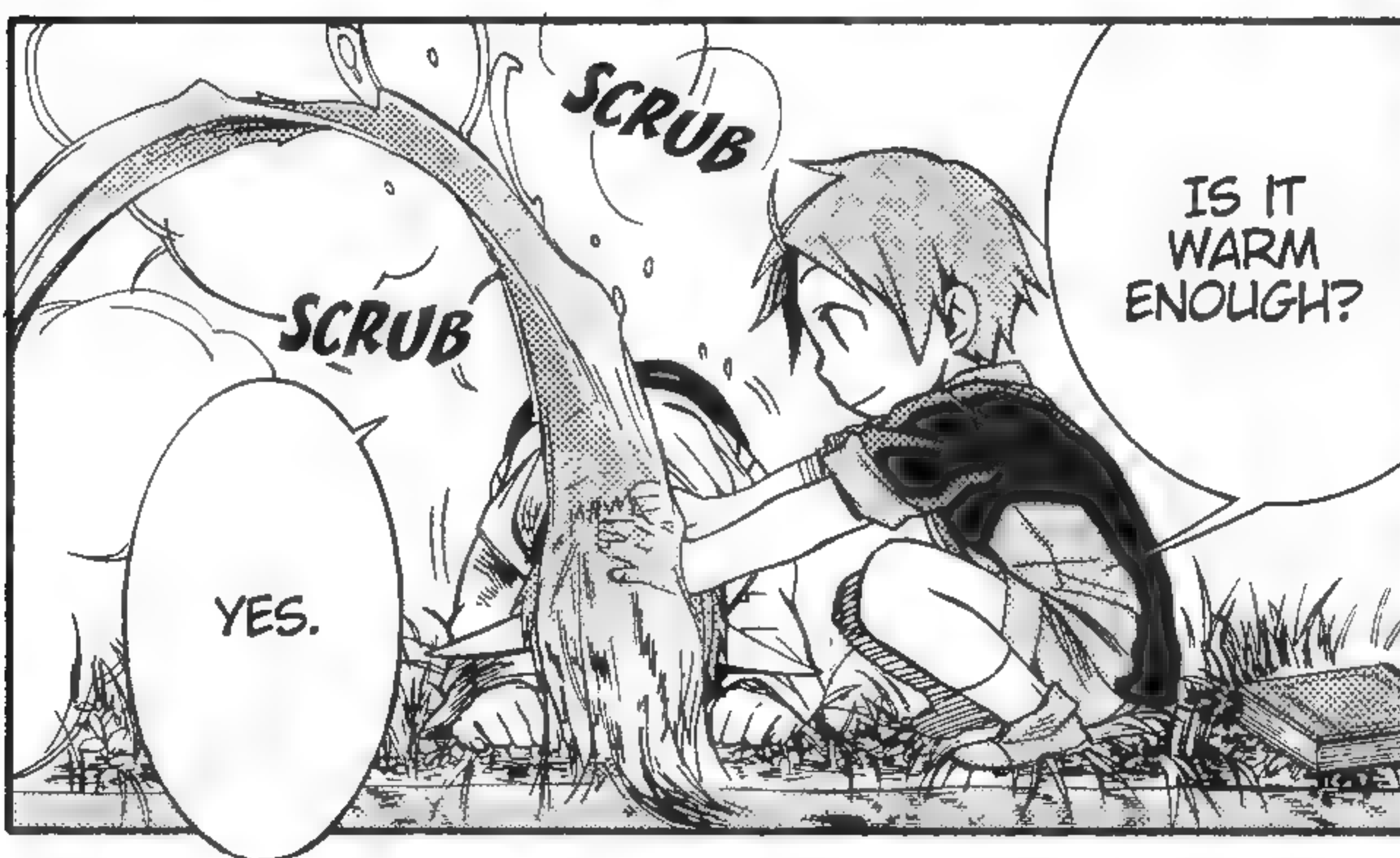
FWIFF
A...

IF I
JUST USE
WATERFALL
AND HEAT MY
HAND AND
THE SAME
TIME...

CLOSE
YOUR EYES
AND STAY
STILL...

?

?



SCRUB
SCRUB

YES.

IS IT
WARM
ENOUGH?



HUH?

AHHN...

FWOOO...

THAT
SHOULD
ABOUT
DO IT. NOW
FOR A
WARM
BREEZE.



WAH
?!

SPLASH!

NOW!
POUR
IT ON
HIM!!



EMERALD-
GREEN
HAIR?!

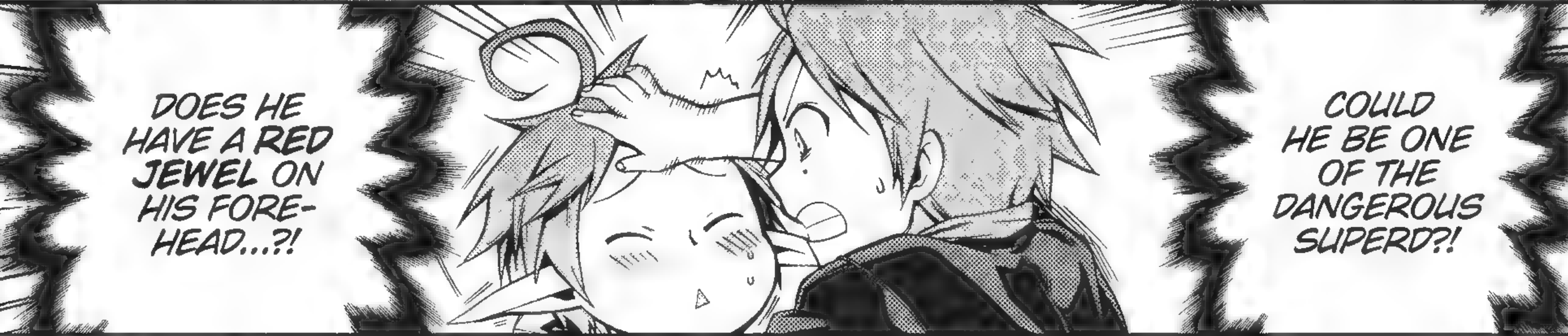
TH-
THANK
YOU...

FLICK



"EVERYONE
IN YOUR
FAMILY WILL
BE KILLED...
KILLED...
KILLED..."

"DO NOT
APPROACH
ANY TRIBE WITH
GREEN HAIR
AND A RED
STONE ON
THEIR FORE-
HEADS.



DOES HE
HAVE A RED
JEWEL ON
HIS FORE-
HEAD...?!

COULD
HE BE ONE
OF THE
DANGEROUS
SUPERD?!



NO...
I'M
SAFE!

PHEW!



BUT MY
HAIR
COLOR...
IT'S
DIFFERENT
FROM MY
FATHER'S
AND MY
MOTHER'S...!

THAT'S
WHY...MY
FATHER
SAYS I'M
NOT A
DEMON.



NAH, MY
TEACHER
WAS A
DEMON.

WHAT
KIND
ARE
YOU?

EH?
IT
DOESN'T
BOTHER
YOU...?

YOU
MUST HAVE
IT ROUGH,
BEING BULLIED
BECAUSE YOUR
HAIR MAKES
YOU LOOK LIKE
A SUPERD.



MY
MOTHER
WAS
HUMAN...

BUT
SHE HAD A
LITTLE BIT
OF BEAST
MIXED IN,
TOO.

SNIFF

I'M...
NOT
SURE.

MY
FATHER
WAS A
HALF-
HUMAN,
HALF-
ELF...



WHAT
SHOULD WE
DO? YOU'LL
PROBABLY BE
BULLIED NEXT
TIME, TOO...!



UM...

A HALF-ELF
AND A QUARTER
BEAST? SO
WHY IS HIS
HAIR THIS
COLOR...?

PAT
PAT



REALLY?!

BEAM

THAT'S
OKAY--COME
AND PLAY
WITH ME.
LET'S BE
FRIENDS!



SYL...
PH...

STAMMER
STAMMER...

I...
UM...



OH YEAH,
I STILL
DON'T
KNOW YOUR
NAME.

MY
NAME'S
RUDELIS,
BUT YOU
CAN CALL
ME RUDY.



AH...

RIGHT
...!

BLUUSH

SINCE
WE'VE BOTH
BEEN VICTIMS
OF BULLYING,
WE SHOULD
BE FRIENDS.

THAT'S
A NICE
NAME. IT'S
SOUNDS LIKE
SOMETHING A
WIND FAIRY
WOULD
HAVE.



PLUS...
SINCE I'M
WITH SUCH
A CUTE BOY,
A CUTE GIRL
MIGHT JUST
HAPPEN
TO COME
ALONG!

A
BONUS
FOR
ME~!

I SEE.
I'LL GO
WITH YOU
THEN.

HE'S
A LOOK-
OUT AT
A TOWER
ON THE
OUT-
SKIRTS
OF THE
FOREST.

I WAS
GOING
TO
DELIVER
MY FATHER'S
LUNCH.

BY THE
WAY,
WHERE
WERE YOU
HEADED?

BESIDES,
HE MIGHT
BE BULLIED
AGAIN IF
HE'S ALONE,
BUT IF I'M
THERE, HE'LL
BE OKAY.

OH,
THANK
YOU...!





OH MAN,
WHAT DO YOU
WANT?! DON'T
LOOK AT ME WITH
THOSE BEAUTIFUL
EYES, SYLPH.
YOU'LL MAKE ME
START THINKING
WEIRD STUFF...

UM...

STARE

YUP...!

TMP
TMP

I'M GLAD
YOU WERE
ABLE TO
DELIVER YOUR
FATHER'S
LUNCH
OKAY.



I WANT
YOU...
TO PLEASE
TEACH
ME!

WAVE

EARLIER...
WITH THE
WARM
WATER...
AND THE
WARM
BREEZE...



I'VE
GOT IT!
TOMORROW,
WE'LL
START MAGIC
TRAINING
TOGETHER!



OKAY!!



WELL,
IT IS HARD,
BUT AS
LONG AS
YOU PRACTICE,
YOU COULD
DO IT...
PROBABLY.

IS IT
HARD?

AH...
THAT?

BEING
AROUND
SYLPH MAKES
ME FEEL WHAT
IT'S LIKE TO
BE A REAL
BIG BROTHER.
I WANT TO
PROTECT HIM.



I MADE A
FRIEND, AND
I'M SURE
PAUL AND
ZENITH WILL
BE HAPPY
TO HEAR
ABOUT THAT!

SKIP

SKIP

YEP,
TODAY
WAS QUITE
A DAY.



CREAK

DADDY,
I'M
HOME!







UH-OH...



WHEN YOU DO SOMETHING WRONG, THE FIRST THING YOU DO IS APOLOGIZE!!

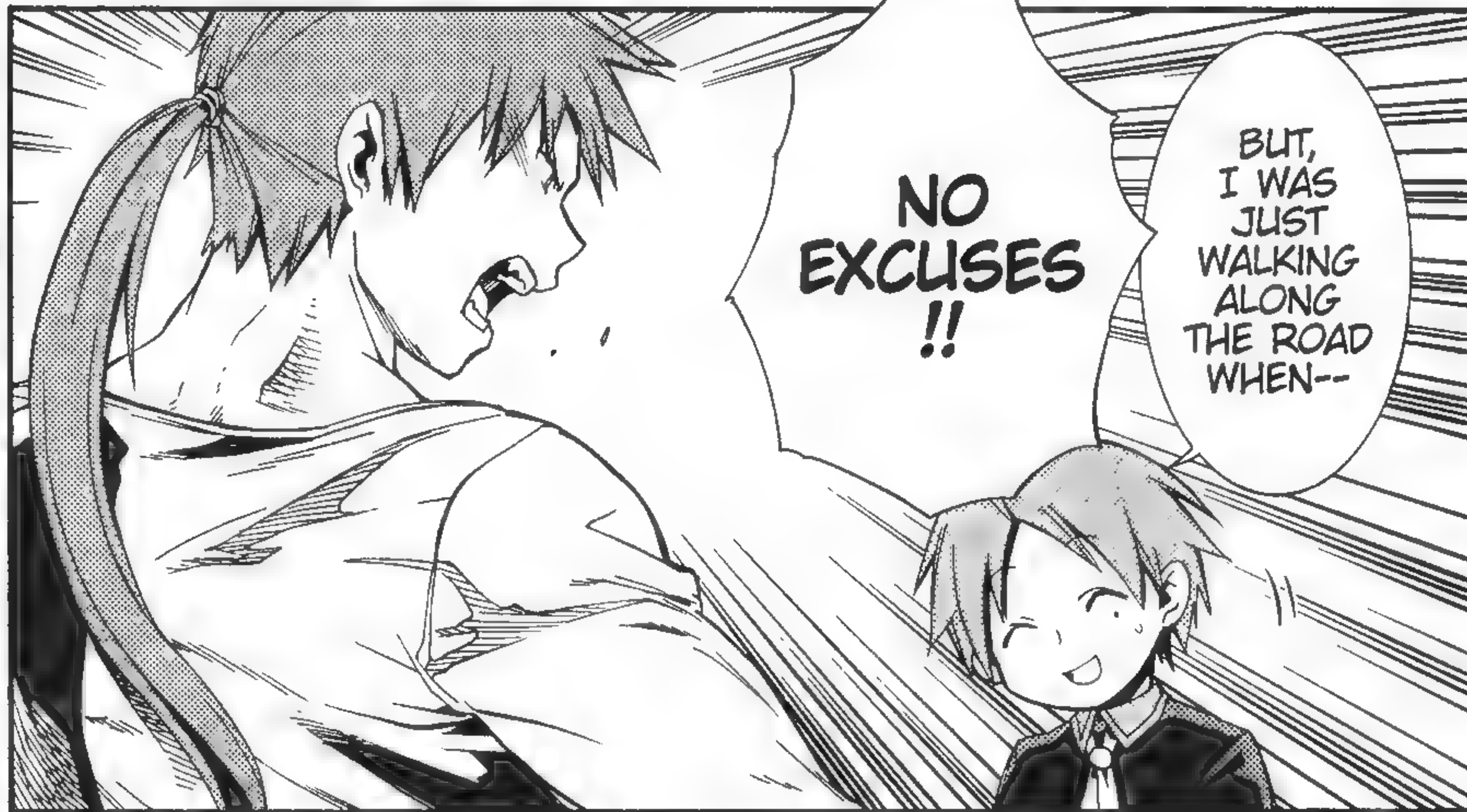
NO!!

DADDY, I DON'T KNOW WHAT THEY TOLD YOU, BUT--

STOMP



GRR!



NO EXCUSES !!

BUT, I WAS JUST WALKING ALONG THE ROAD WHEN--



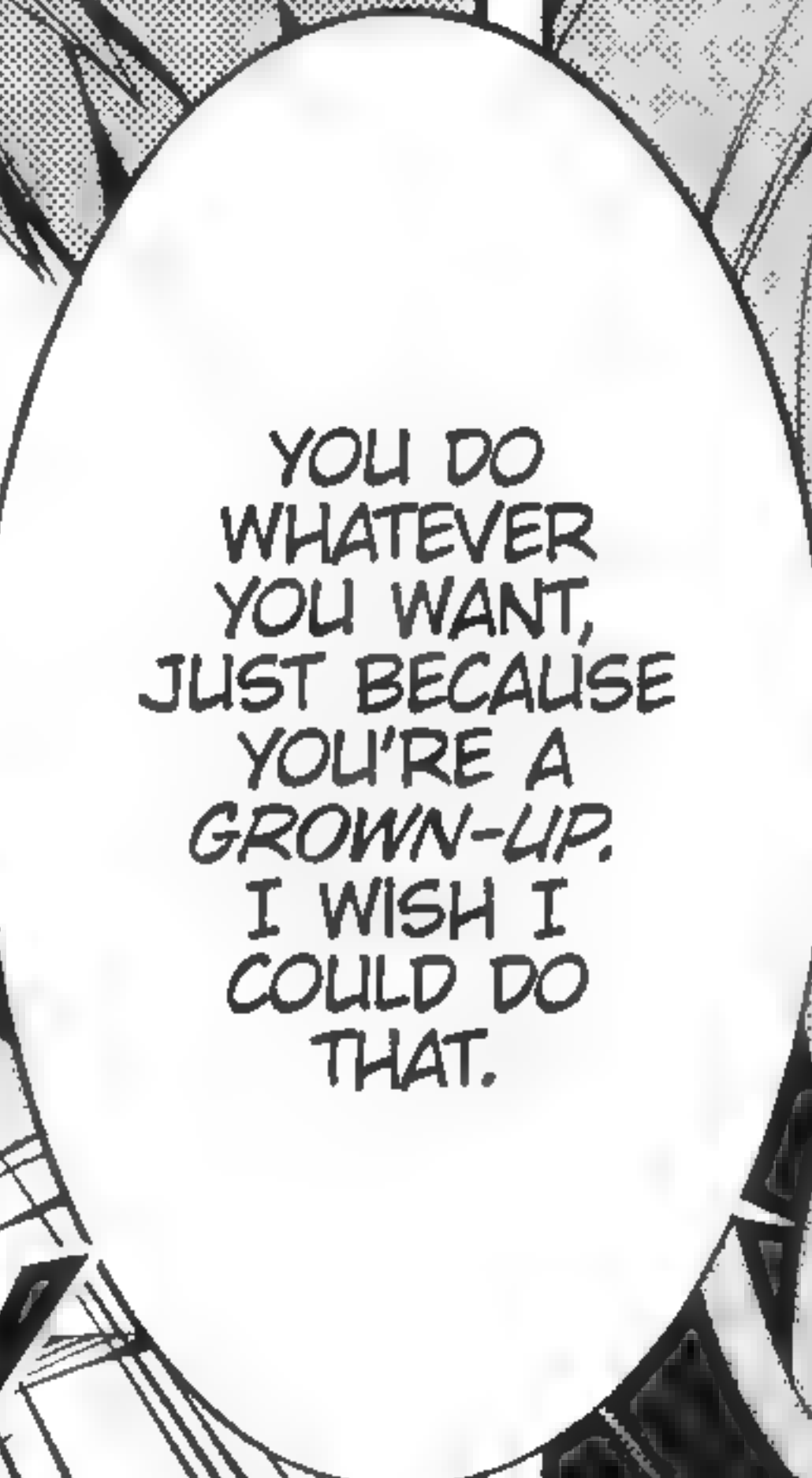
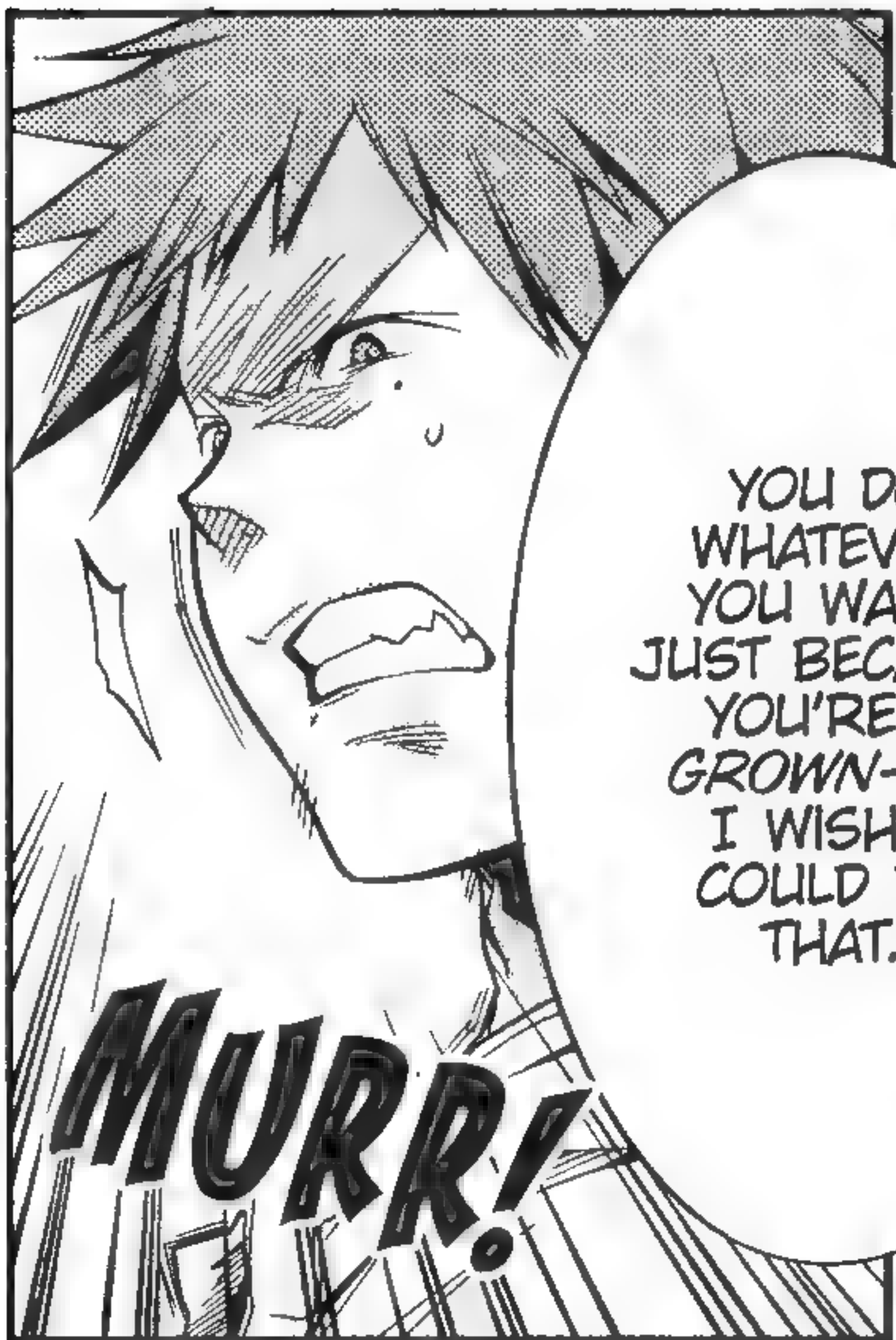
I MEAN, I GUESS IT'S ALL RIGHT IF I JUST SAY "SORRY"... BUT I DON'T THINK THAT'S WHAT PAUL WANTS.

COME ON ALREADY, WILL YOU JUST HEAR ME OUT? ESPECIALLY SINCE WHAT THEY TOLD YOU WAS A LIE.



...

THIS ISN'T HOW YOU SHOULD SCOLD A KID.







HOLD
ON, WHAT
HAPPENED?



I HAVE
NOTHING
TO
APOLOGIZE
FOR!



I
THOUGHT
YOU DIDN'T
WANT
TO HEAR
EXCUSES?



NEXT TIME
I SEE THREE
PEOPLE GANGING
UP ON ONE
HELPLESS
PERSON, I'LL
JUST IGNORE
IT.

DON'T
WORRY,
FATHER.

OR I'LL
JOIN IN, SO
IT BECOMES
FOUR ON
ONE.



I'LL TELL
EVERYONE
THAT BULLYING
THE WEAK
IS THE REAL
GREYRAT
FAMILY
MOTTO.



AND
NEVER CALL
MYSELF A
GREYRAT
AGAIN!

AND
WHEN I
GROW UP,
I'LL LEAVE
HOME...

IT
ACTUALLY
HURTS TO
SAY THIS,
BUT...



I'M
EMBARRASSED
TO SHARE
THE FAMILY
NAME OF
SUCH MEAN
AND HORRIBLE
PEOPLE!

IGNORING
VIOLENCE
AND
VERBAL
ABUSE...

I CAN'T
SUPPORT
THAT KIND OF
BULLYING! NOT
SEEING IT, OR
BEING BULLIED
MYSELF!!



QUIVER
QUIVER
QUIVER

PLEASE
DON'T
GET
MAD...



TWITCH...



I MAY
HAVE BEEN
A LITTLE
HARSH IN
THE WAY I
SAID THOSE
THINGS.

OKAY.

SO,
WHAT IT
WAS--



Phew!

CAN YOU
TELL ME
WHAT
REALLY
HAPPENED?

SORRY...
YOUR
DADDY WAS
WRONG.

BOW
ふい
ふい



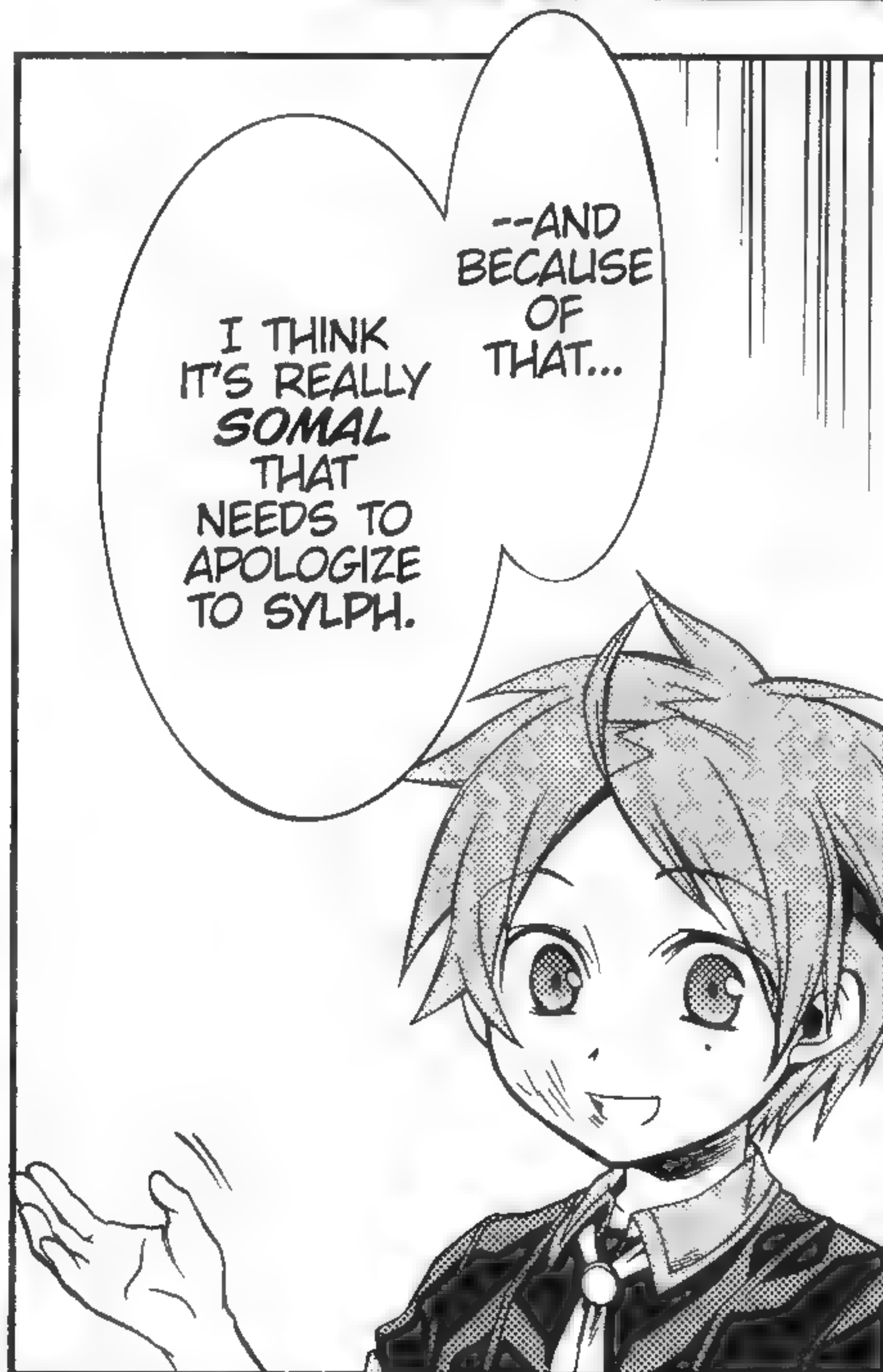
CRINGE...



THAT'S
OKAY,
DADDY.

BOW

I SEE. I...
COMPLETELY
MISUNDERSTOOD
THE SITUATION.
I'M SORRY,
RUDY.



--AND
BECAUSE
OF THAT...

I THINK
IT'S REALLY
SOMAL
THAT
NEEDS TO
APOLOGIZE
TO SYLPH.



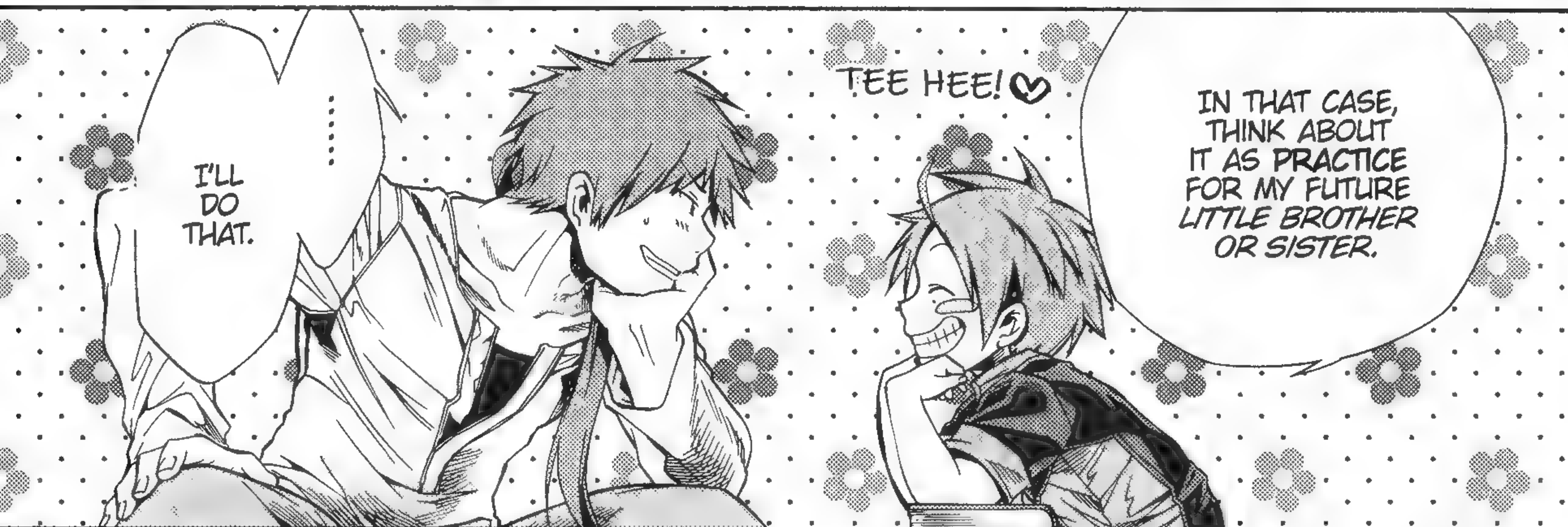
ALL I
WANT IS
FOR YOU TO
LISTEN TO
ME FIRST.

WHEN I DO
SOMETHING
BAD, YOU
SHOULD SCOLD
ME FOR IT.



ALTHOUGH,
I DON'T THINK
YOU'LL DO
ANYTHING
THAT NEEDS
SCOLDING IN
THE FIRST
PLACE.

OKAY,
I'LL BE
CAREFUL.



I'LL
DO
THAT.

TEE HEE! ♡

IN THAT CASE,
THINK ABOUT
IT AS PRACTICE
FOR MY FUTURE
LITTLE BROTHER
OR SISTER.



GREAT!
THANK YOU,
DADDY!

OH,
SURE.

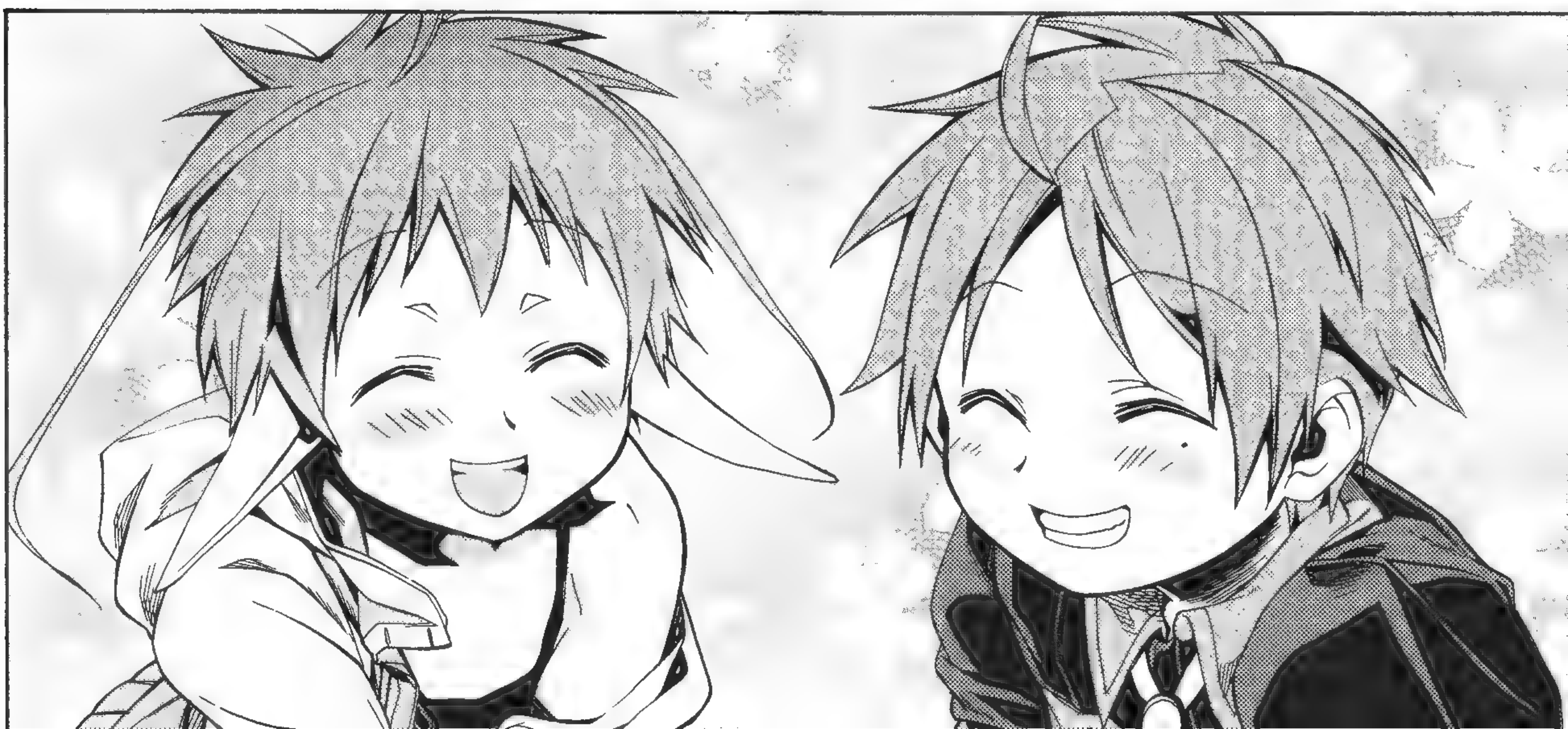
WELL,
THAT'S
THAT.

IS IT
OKAY IF
SYLPH
COMES
OVER NEXT
TIME?

AH,
THAT
REMINDS
ME.

YES?

I'M GLAD
HE DOESN'T
HAVE ANY
PREJUDICES
AGAINST
DEMONS.





DID
YOU SEE
THAT?!!

ONE
YEAR
LATER...



I
CAST ICE
PILLAR
WITHOUT
SAYING
ANY-
THING!!

I
DID IT,
RUDY!



FLIP
PLOP
AH, MAN...
EITHER SYLPH
IS A GENIUS, OR
IT'S BECAUSE OF
HIS AGE, BUT
HE'S REALLY
IMPROVING FAST.
MAYBE I'M JUST
PARANOID...

HMM?



RAIN...?

SHAA



TEE
HEE!

WOW,
YOU GOT
REALLY GOOD
IN LESS
THAN A YEAR.
THAT'S GREAT,
SYLPH!

PLINK

PLINK



WELCOME HOME, YOUNG MASTER RUDELIS... AND FRIEND.



TH-THANKS... FOR HAVING ME.

I'M HOME!

SOAKED!



THANKS, MISS LILIA.

SO YOU DON'T CATCH A COLD, PLEASE DRY OFF ON THE SECOND FLOOR.

THE BATH HAS BEEN PREPARED.



EH? Y-YES, BUT...!

BLUSH

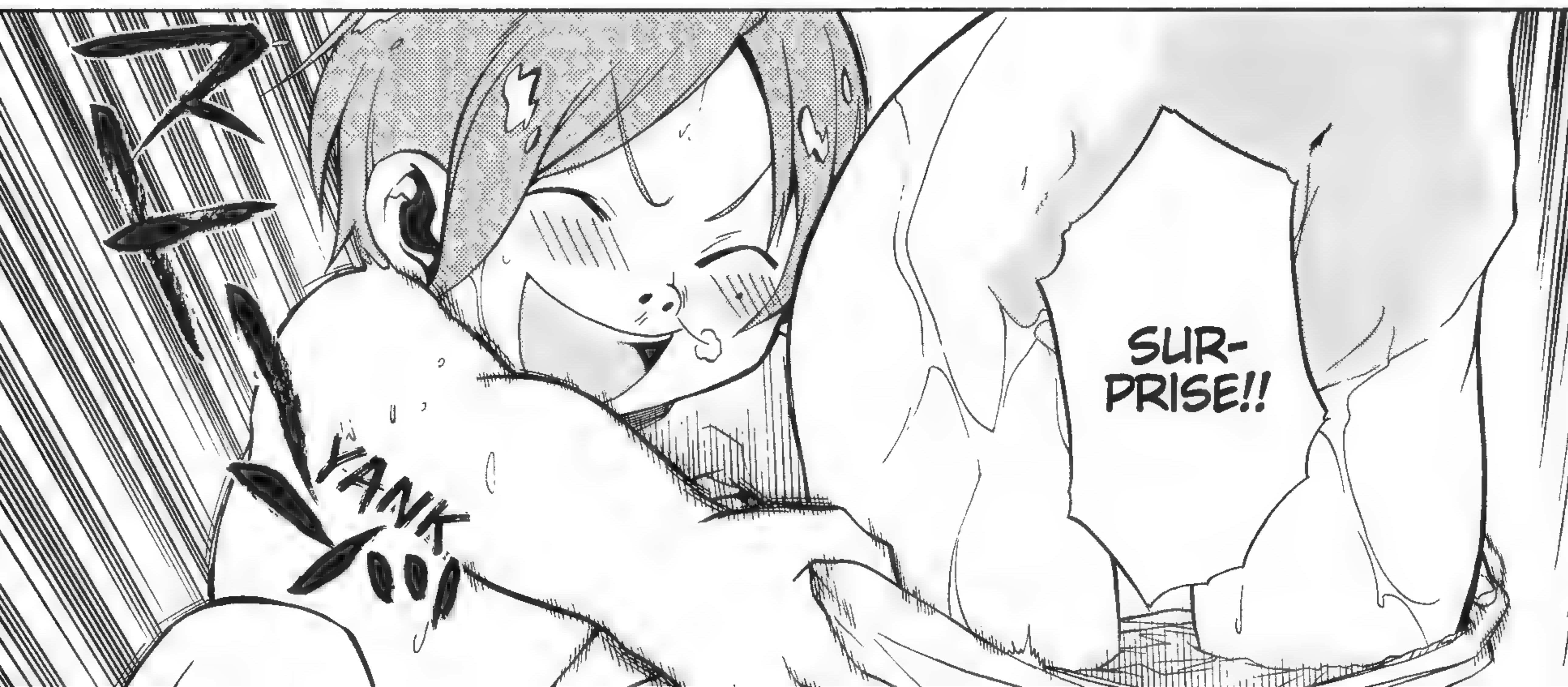
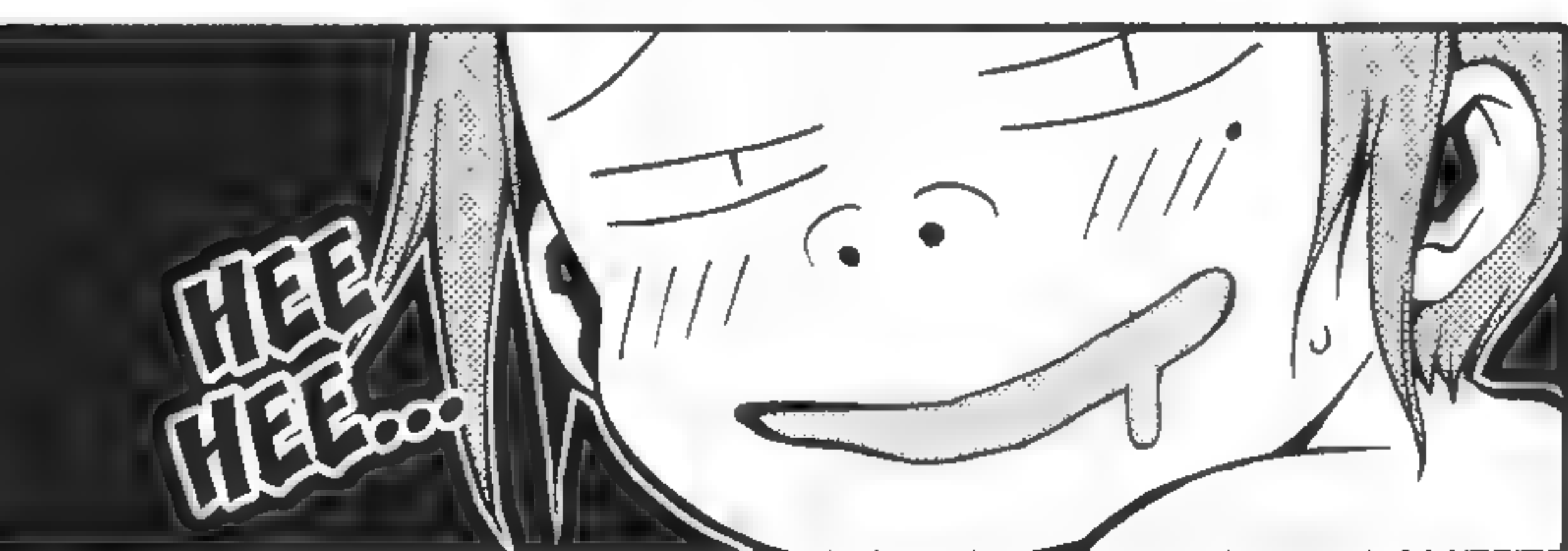
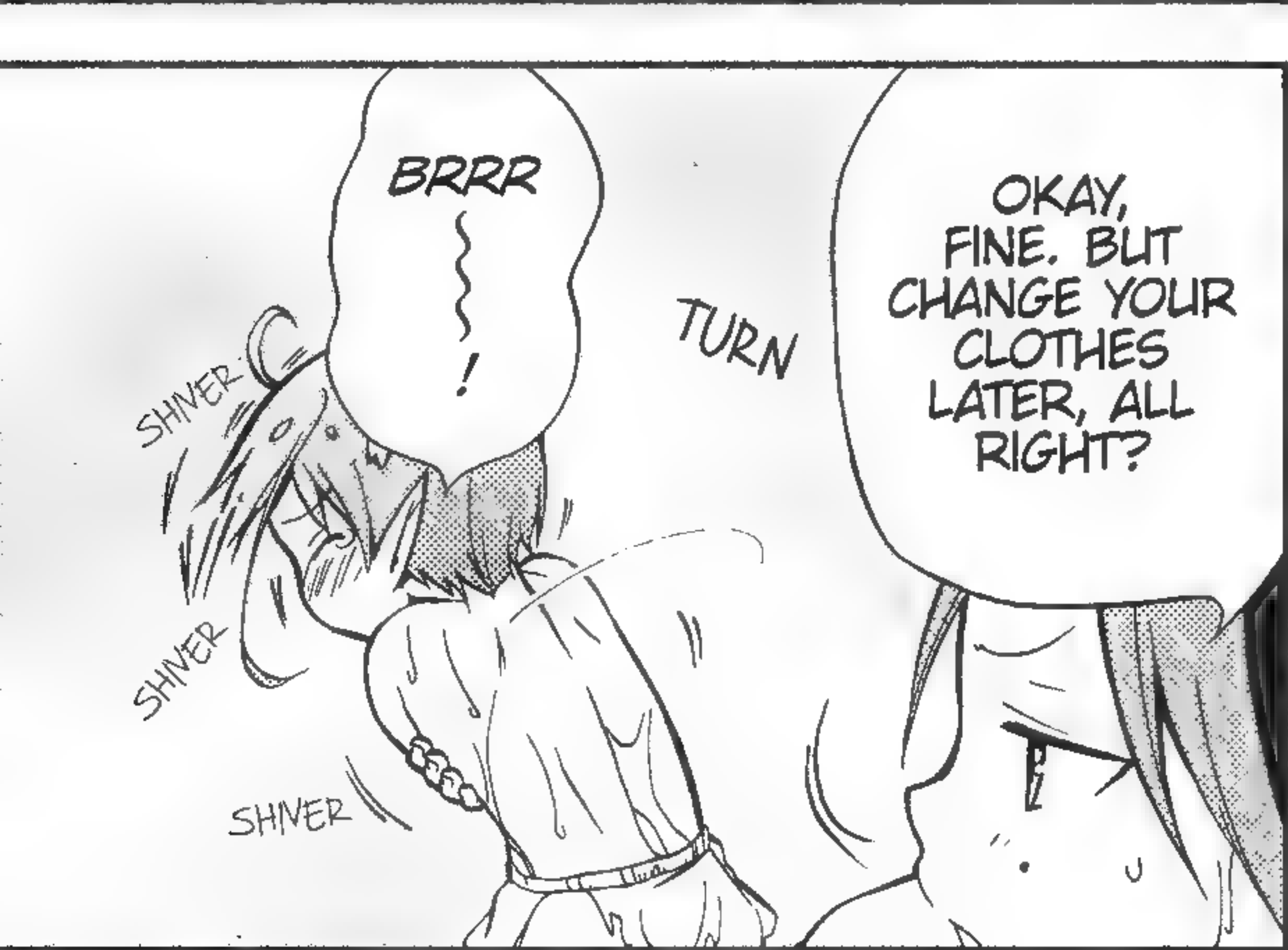
HUH? WHAT'S WRONG? IF YOU DON'T TAKE OFF YOUR CLOTHES, YOU'LL CATCH A COLD.

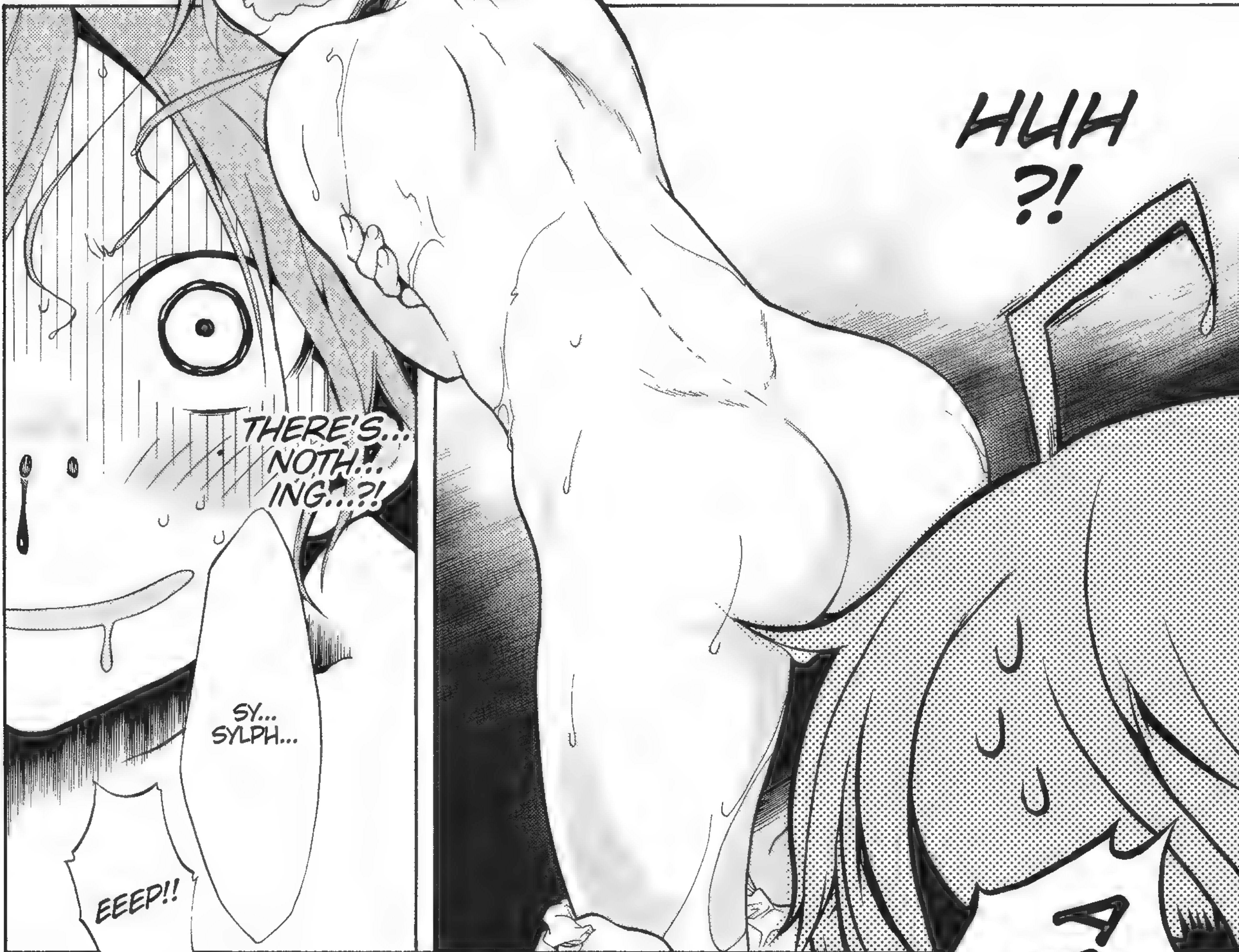


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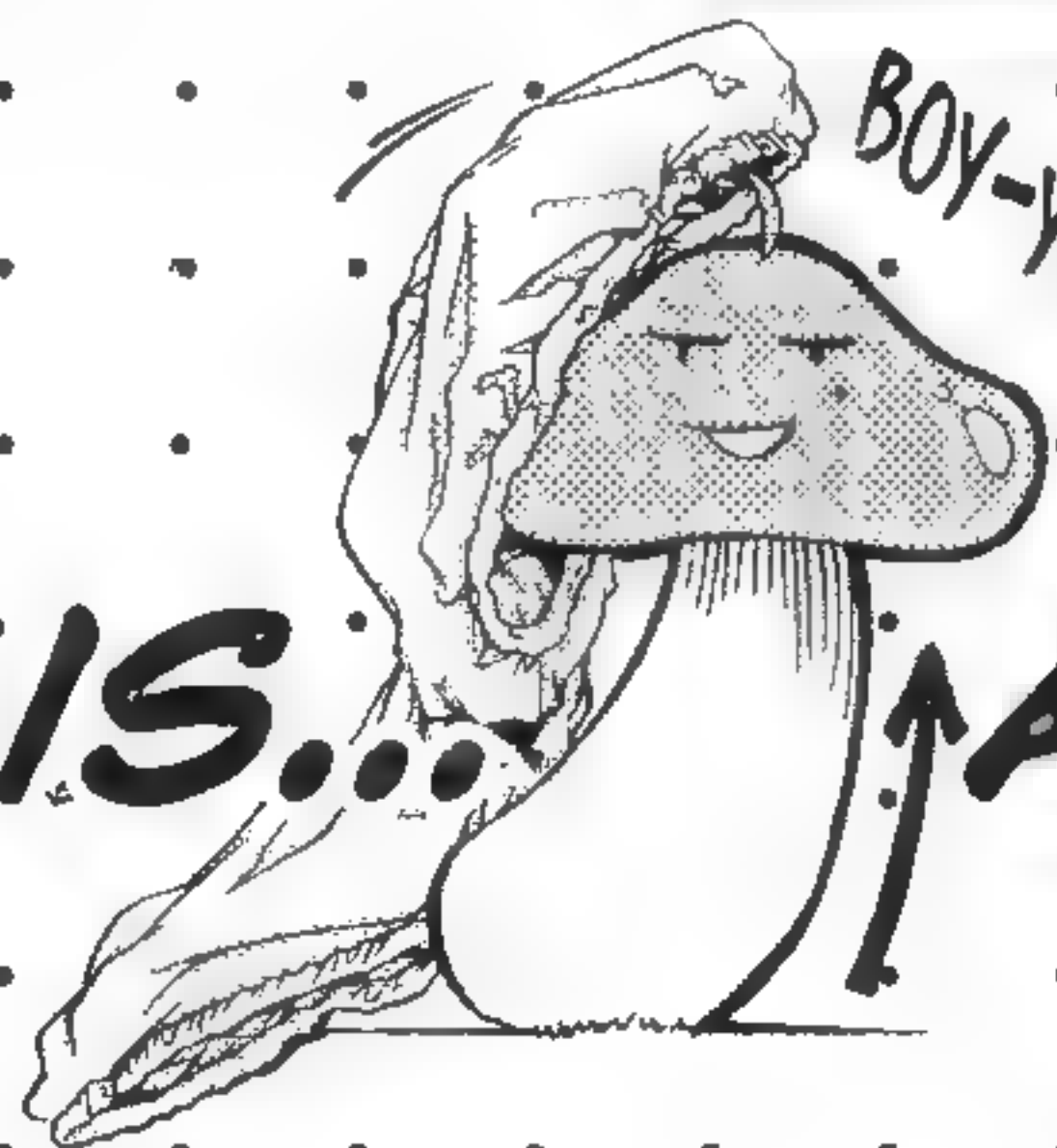
WHIP

PLAP





SYLPH IS... A GIRL?!



HAHAHAHA!!!

SYLPHIE'S FATHER

by: Rifujin Na Magonote

My daughter Sylphiette has been a pitiable child since she was born. She has green hair.

As it is well known that only demons have green hair, my wife looked at me in terror after Sylphiette's birth. Neither my wife nor I have green hair.

Flustered, my wife quickly assured me that she had been faithful. I knew that she loved me from the bottom of her heart, so I didn't question a thing. I felt a knot of guilt in my stomach, however, as I strongly suspected that Sylphiette's hair color was caused by something in my blood.

I am a half-elf. I'm not sure who my father was, and my mother never discussed her ancestry.



Therefore, Sylphiette's hair must have been the result of something within my heritage. When I assured my wife that my bloodline was the problem, and thanked her for giving birth to our child, she cried.

My wife was the child of a slave to a beast tribe, and she'd never met her grandparents. Neither of us has any idea who our father was. We mused about how it was that we—the children of unknown origin—had met, fallen in love, and had a child who would never know her lineage either. This brought us both to tears. Through misty eyes, we swore to the gods that we would love this child and raise her as best we could, together.

Shortly after my daughter was born, I consulted the village's elder. Despite Sylphiette's green hair, she was not an evil child. I promised I would do anything I could for the village in the hopes that they would accept us. The village elder nodded and assured me that all would be well. I had lived in the village since its founding, and until the resident knight, Paul, had arrived, I was the only person working to reduce the number of monsters in the area.



This helped me establish a good relationship with the other villagers, who were generally good natured. Though we would have faced serious persecution in other lands, my ties to the villagers, as well as the expectations placed upon citizens of the prospering Asura Kingdom as a whole, gave me hope that we might lead normal lives.

In other countries, we would have been persecuted. As long as we were in this village, I believed that my daughter would grow up healthy.

In those early days, I was optimistic.

I first learned that adult rules don't apply to children when my daughter was about five years old. The saint-ranked magician Roxy had just visited our village, and she had been accepted by the other villagers.

By then, my daughter had become a target for the other children because the fact that the Roxy's blue hair marked her as a demon had circulated throughout the village. In the stories adults shared with their children, demons were always the enemy. At first, the village children targeted Roxy too, but



as an experienced adventurer, she was able to deal with them with ease. However, when she left, the other children turned their attention to my green-haired Sylphiette. Unable to fight back, she was the target of flying mud and was occasionally chased around by children wielding sticks.

The very thought of her suffering made my blood boil time and time again. Regardless of how much was done to my daughter, the adult villagers continued to accommodate us. Despite my anger, I couldn't simply punish the wayward children. I asked them why they tormented Sylphiette so much. It shocked me when they informed me that targeting of demons was just for fun.

Their theory was that if they threw mud or chased people with a stick, all the victim had to do was run away, or at least pretend to succumb as Roxy had done. It was too early for my daughter to understand these games, and they only frightened her. When I asked them to stop, they didn't care at all or listen to my plea.

Following my ignored request for civility, we



tried several countermeasures. My wife cut our daughter's hair short and made pants for her so that she could run away more easily. I went to the doors of the other children's parents and asked if they could talk sense and kindness into their offspring. For Sylphiette's fifth birthday, I traveled to the town of Roa and, with the little money I had, bought her a jacket with a hood to cover her hair.

But it didn't solve anything.

The adults knew she was being bullied and tried to help. However, when the bullying happened beyond their view, my five-year-old daughter gradually became more and more afraid of going outside. As her energy and smile faded, I wondered if it would be better to move to another area. With her hair, though, it would've been the same wherever we went. At least the adults understood and sympathized, which was better than nothing. When the children got older, they might learn right from wrong, but my wife and I worried that the wait might be too much for our daughter to endure.

Then one day, our daughter's cheerfulness



mysteriously returned.

She had met Rudeus.

He saved her and protected her.

In turn, Sylphiette was completely comfortable with him, and lately all she ever talks about at the dinner table is her new friend. Every conversation with our daughter is full of updates about her new friendship, a constant litany of “Today, we...” and “Tomorrow, Rudy is going to...”

I saw her smile for the first time in a long time, and our dinner table seems brighter than it has for a long while.

But I’m still worried about the next problem she might face.

“Sigh.”

“What’s wrong, Laws? Why are you sighing?” It was late at night. In the middle of my rotation on patrol, Paul called to me.

“Ah, Paul.”

Paul was Rudeus’s father. He lived in the village as its resident knight, and was responsible for keeping peace in the village. He placed a hand on



my shoulder. “If you have a problem, I’ll be glad to listen.”

“No, it’s not really a problem,” I insisted.

“Well, why don’t you tell me about it, anyway? We’ve got some free time, after all.”

Paul wasn’t your average swordsman. He had obtained advanced ranking in three major schools of swordsmanship. He could doubtlessly defeat any of the monsters around with a single blow. With his strength, he probably could have been a successful knight in the capital. I wondered why he came to such a backwater town, but was deeply grateful that he was here, especially because of his son’s friendship with my daughter. In reality, this friendship had caused some new concerns for me. I decided that Paul might be able to help me devise a plan to resolve the issue, and explained to him my cause of unease.

“Last night, my wife said to our daughter, ‘Tomorrow, your father is going to the watchtower, so come home around noon and help out with the preparations.’”

Paul nodded, impressed. “Oh, already helping



out—that’s wonderful.” Though Rudeus and Sylphiette were both seven years old, Paul had Rudeus undergoing special training at age three. Paul asked, “So, what’s the problem with that?”

I paused. “My daughter came home late in the evening.” Lately, she hadn’t been keeping her word, and I could easily guess the reason.

Paul rubbed his chin pensively. “Ah. Well, that’s common—kids become so engrossed in playing that they lose track of time.”

“Once or twice would be fine...but these days, it’s all the time.” Sylphiette is normally a helpful girl who listens to us, but that’s not the case when Rudeus is involved.

“Why don’t you scold her sternly and warn her to be more careful next time?” Paul asked.

I sighed. “Even if I do, she just makes the same excuse: ‘But Rudy...’ and hardly listens to me.” When I said that, Paul’s face darkened. I hastily added, “Ah, no, I’m not saying this is Rudeus’s fault or anything. He takes good care of her.” Once my daughter turned five and started going for walks outside on her own, she became the target of the



village children. I was extremely grateful for Rudeus's intervention, and I understood that the two had gotten quite close.

But Sylphiette was definitely making a lot more excuses, and lately, she had been taking Rudeus's word over ours. My wife and I realized that it was most likely because we weren't able to help her when she needed it most. I continued, "It's just, at her age, we're concerned that she's not listening to what we say."

Paul had a difficult expression on his face. He seemed to be thinking about something. "Well, I'm sure it's something that may change in a few years."

I explained that I wondered if my daughter's brain had room for any thoughts besides those of Rudeus. It had come to the point where she'd forget what we'd told her, and make her singular excuse, "But Rudy..." whenever she was asked why she didn't keep to her word. I hoped that, as she grew older and learned to make wise decisions, she would begin to listen to us again.

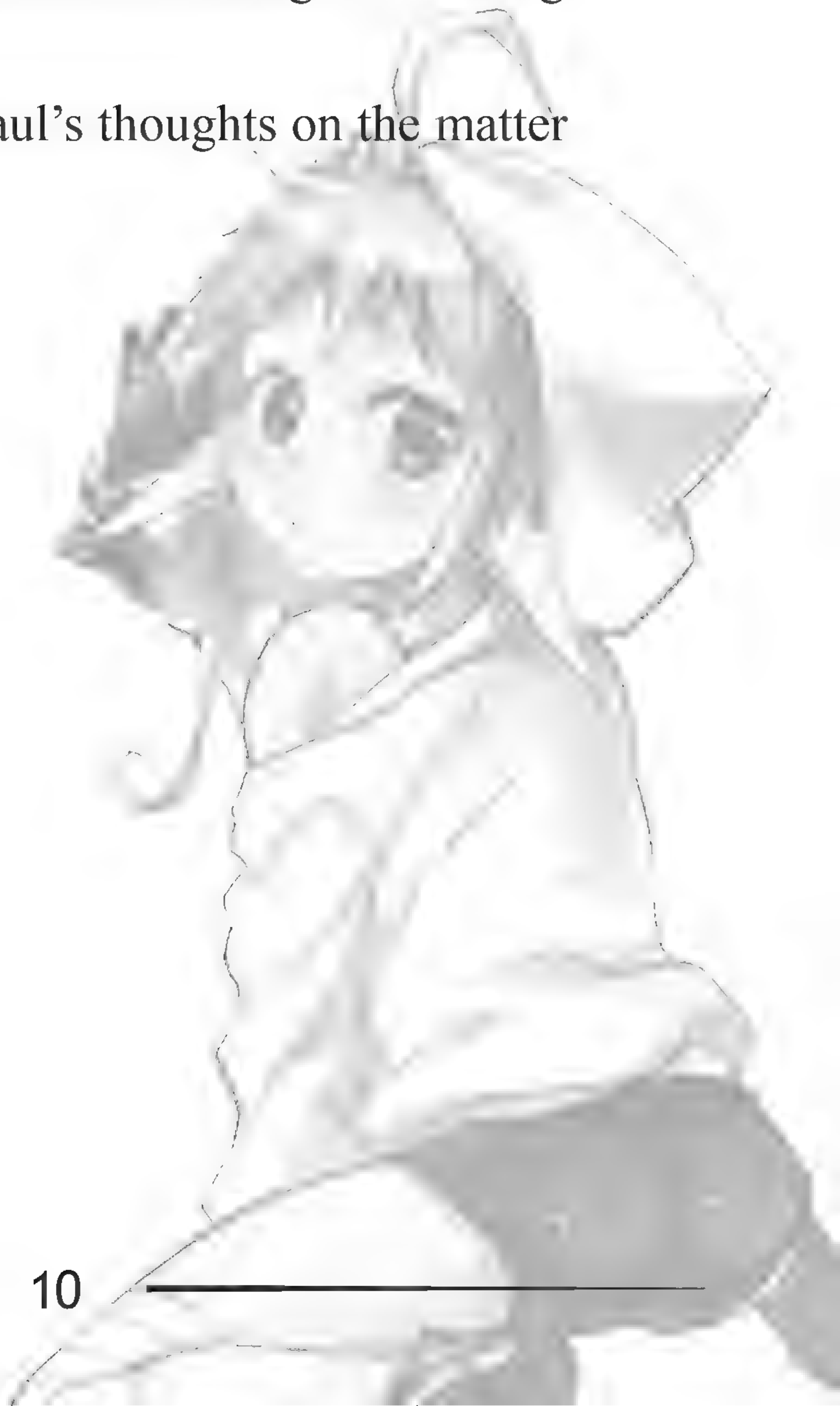
Paul nodded. "That...would be good, huh?" Then he made a rather frightening expression. The look



on his face was murderous. Deep in thought, he muttered, “This isn’t going to work the way it is now.” He suddenly fell silent, apparently lost in his contemplation. Because of his behavior, I found myself at a loss for words and felt pressured into silence.

With that, the two of us finished our watch in silence, the atmosphere surrounding us feeling heavier than usual.

I wouldn’t learn of Paul’s thoughts on the matter until later.





***Mushoku Tensei* has become a manga!**

Thinking about it, when I was told that this was going to be a manga, it didn't hit me right away. It didn't hit me when I saw the chapter names. When I was shown the rough draft for Volume 1, I finally thought, "Wow, it's going to be a manga!" and it hit me. When the issue of *Comic Flapper Magazine* came out with the first chapter in it, I couldn't settle down. I went to the neighborhood shops looking for a copy, unable to find it... unable to find it. When I finally did find it, buy it, and take it home, my complimentary copy had already arrived! I remember all that. And now, the manga that the writer had dreamed of has already become a book!

Happy! So happy! Roxy!



Congratulations on Volume one!

Fujikawa Yuka-sensei's characters are so wonderfully cute that I looked forward to seeing them every month. The characters I had designed were moving all around, and whenever I happen to see them doing something unexpected, I grin. Sylphie is too adorable! And Roxy--!

I'm really looking forward to seeing the difference between the world of the light novels and the manga.



SEE YA ON
THE OTHER
SIDE!

SEVEN SEAS ENTERTAINMENT PRESENTS

Mushoku Tensei

jobless reincarnation volume 1

story by RIFUJIN NA MAGONOTE / art by FUJIKAWA YUKA

TRANSLATION
Jill Morita

ADAPTATION
Danielle King
Karis Page

LETTERING AND LAYOUT
Laura Scoville

COVER DESIGN
Nicky Lim

PROOFREADER
Lee Otter

ASSISTANT EDITOR
Lissa Pattillo

MANAGING EDITOR
Adam Arnold

PUBLISHER
Jason DeAngelis

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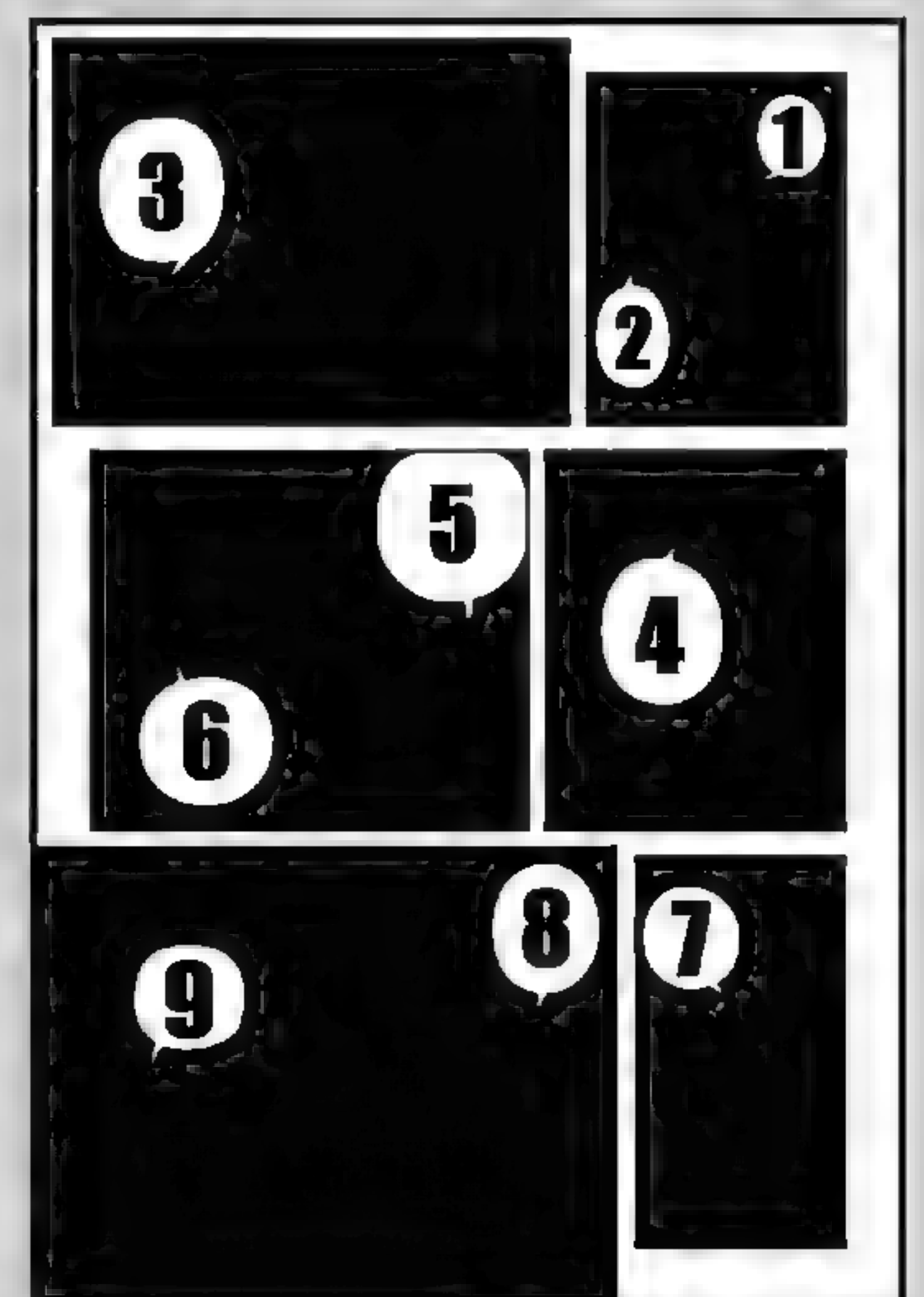
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10 9 8 7 6 5 4 3 2 1

FOLLOW US ONLINE: www.gomanga.com

READING DIRECTIONS

The manga prelude and epilogue sections that bookend this light novel read from right to left, Japanese style. If this is your first time reading manga, you start reading from the top right panel on each page and take it from there. If you get lost, just follow the numbered diagram here. Enjoy!!



A SECOND CHANCE IN A NEW WORLD!

Just as an unemployed otaku reaches a dead end in life and decides that it's time to turn over a new leaf—he gets hit by a truck and dies! Shockingly, he finds himself reborn into an infant's body in a strange, new world of swords and magic.

His new identity is Rudeus Greyrat, but he still retains the memories of his previous life. Follow Rudeus from infancy to adulthood, as he makes use of his past experiences to forge ahead in this new world as a true prodigy—gifted with maturity beyond his years and a natural born talent for magic. Can Rudeus redeem himself in this wondrous yet dangerous land?



Rated: TEEN

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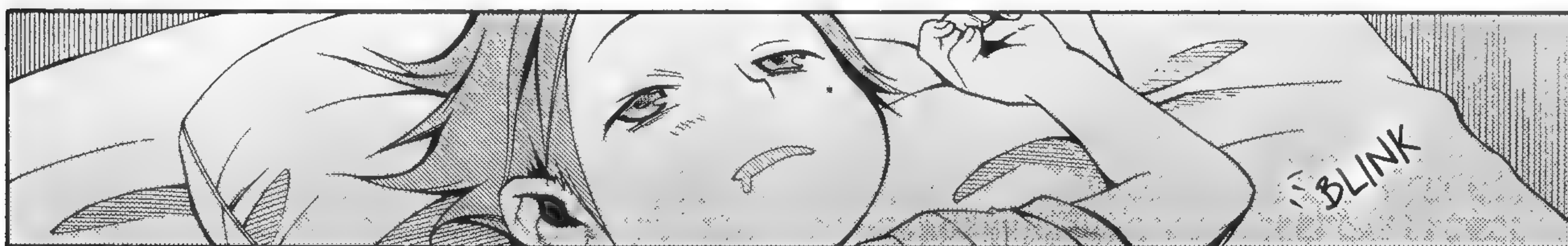


Chapter 5

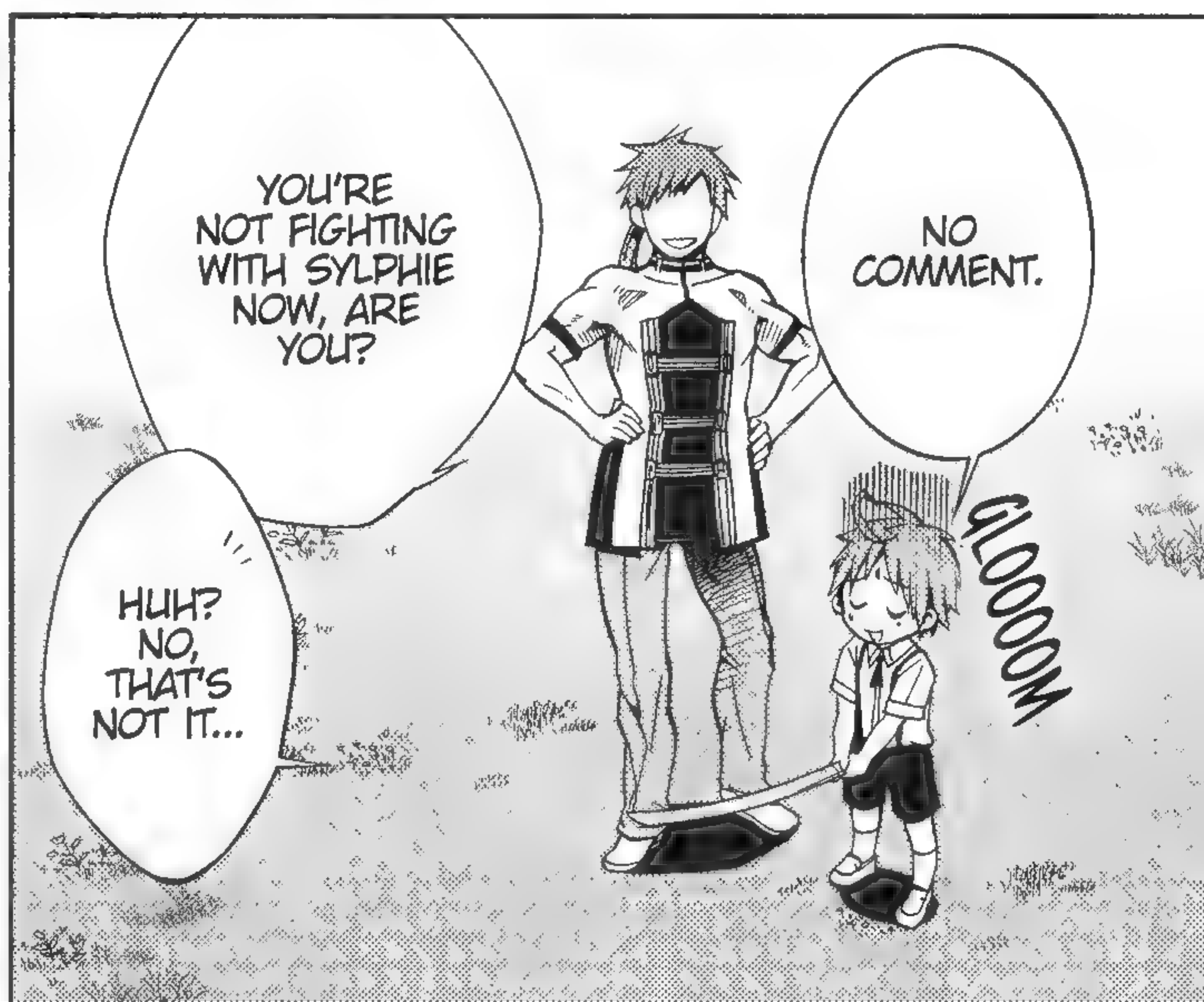
FAMILY MEETING
AND GROWING PAINS

APPARENTLY,
THAT'S
SYLPH'S
REAL NAME.

SYLPHIETTE.









MOMMY...

MIS-
TRESS!!



BUT...!

IT'S NOT
GOOD FOR
YOU. I TOLD
YOU TO
LEAVE ALL
THE HOUSE-
WORK TO
ME.

SNATCH



HON-
ESTLY...!!

JUST
WHAT
EXACTLY
ARE YOU
TRYING
TO TEACH
YOUR
SIX-YEAR
OLD?!



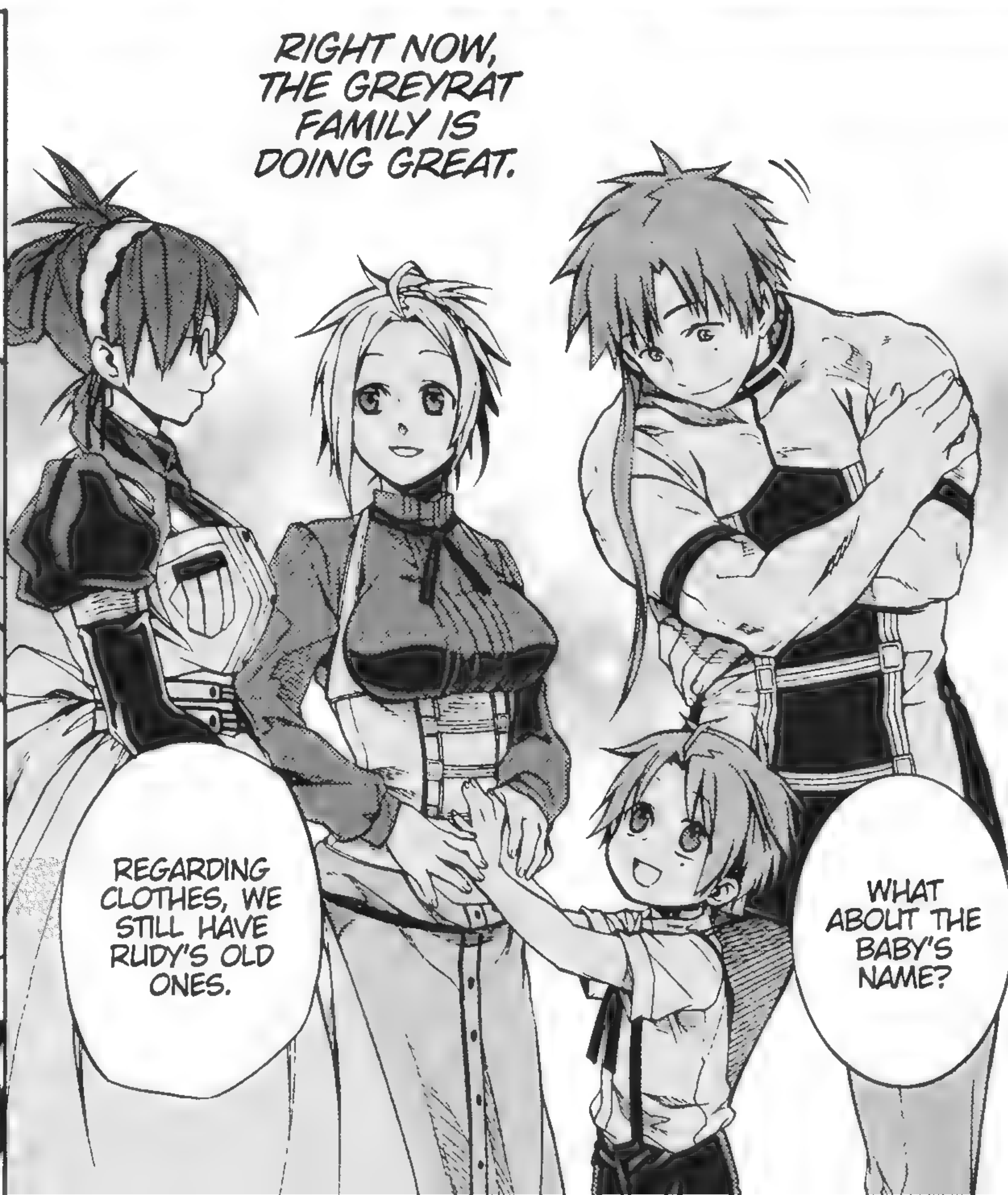
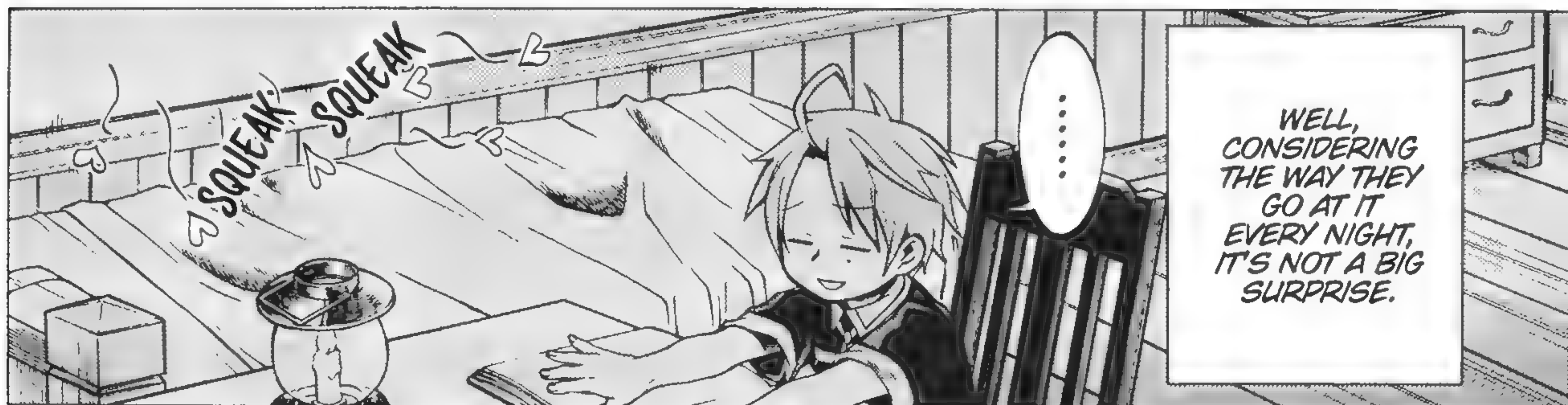
YEAH,
BUT...

YOU
MUSTN'T
OVEREXERT
YOURSELF!
WHAT WILL
HAPPEN
TO YOUR
BABY?!



I CAN'T
ALLOW IT!
THIS IS AN
IMPORTANT
PERIOD OF
TIME!

お!! SNAP!!
I'M
FINE, LILIA,
REALLY!
I GET
RESTLESS
WHEN I DON'T
EXERCISE
A LITTLE...



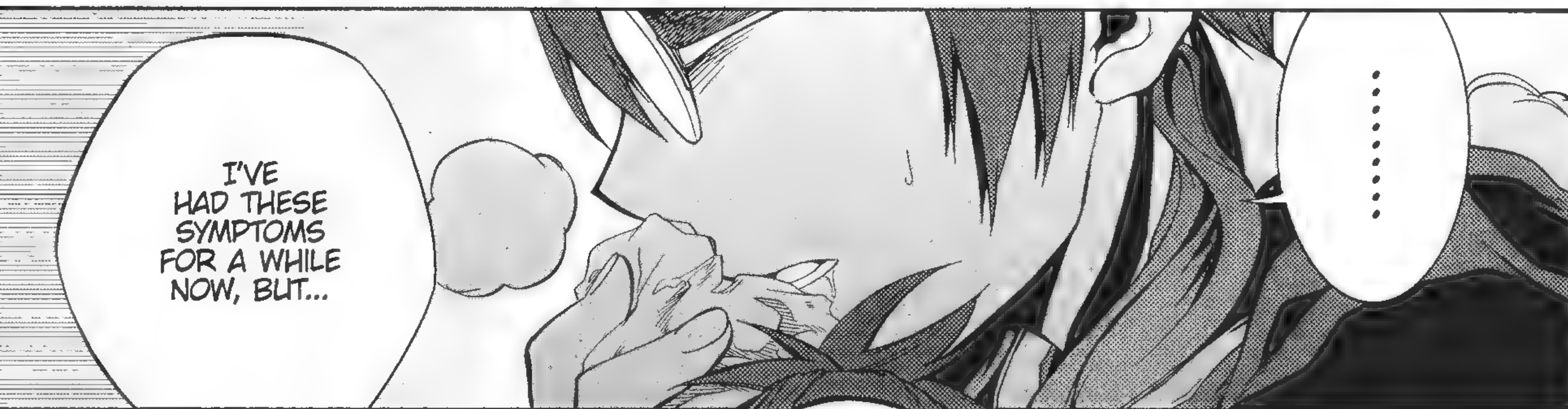


TURN



BLAARGH!

BLEH
BLEH!

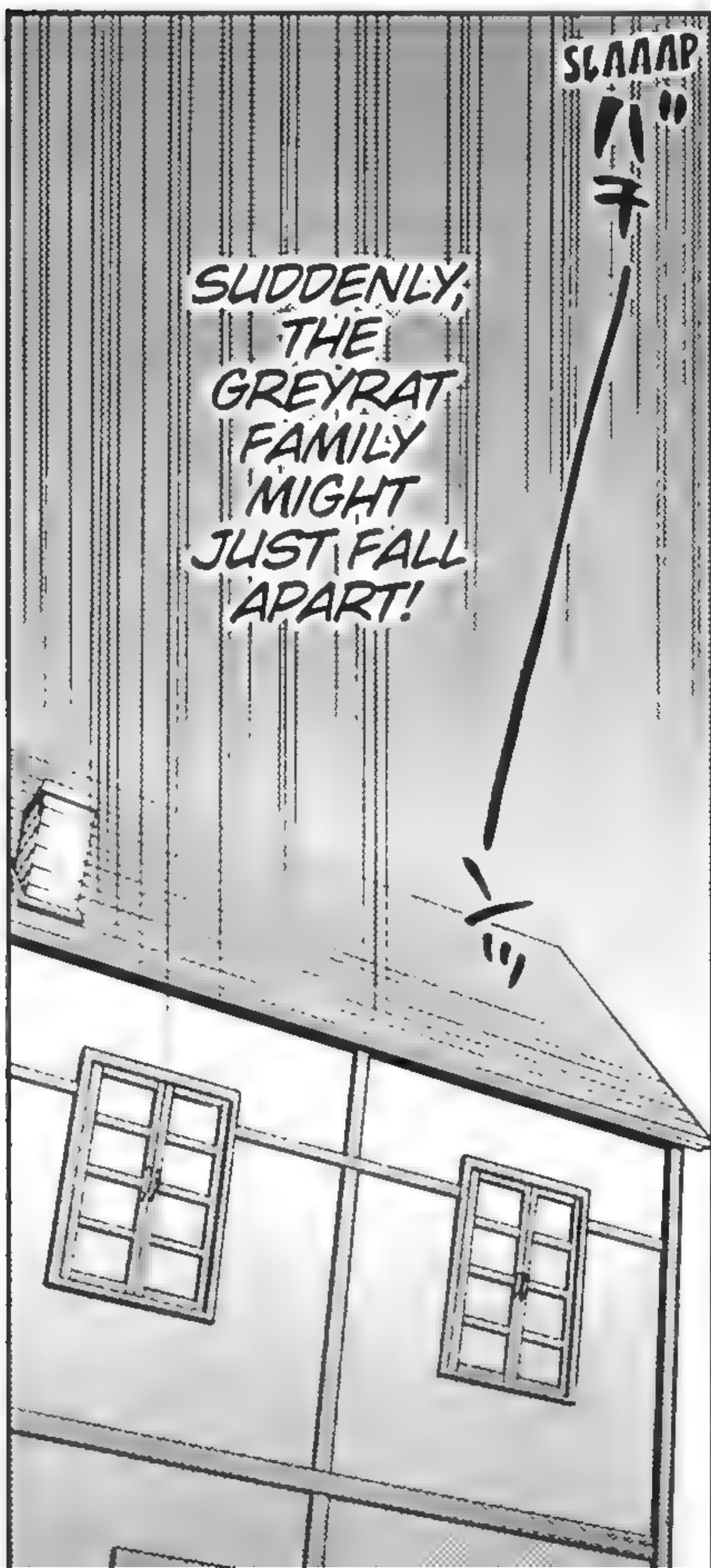


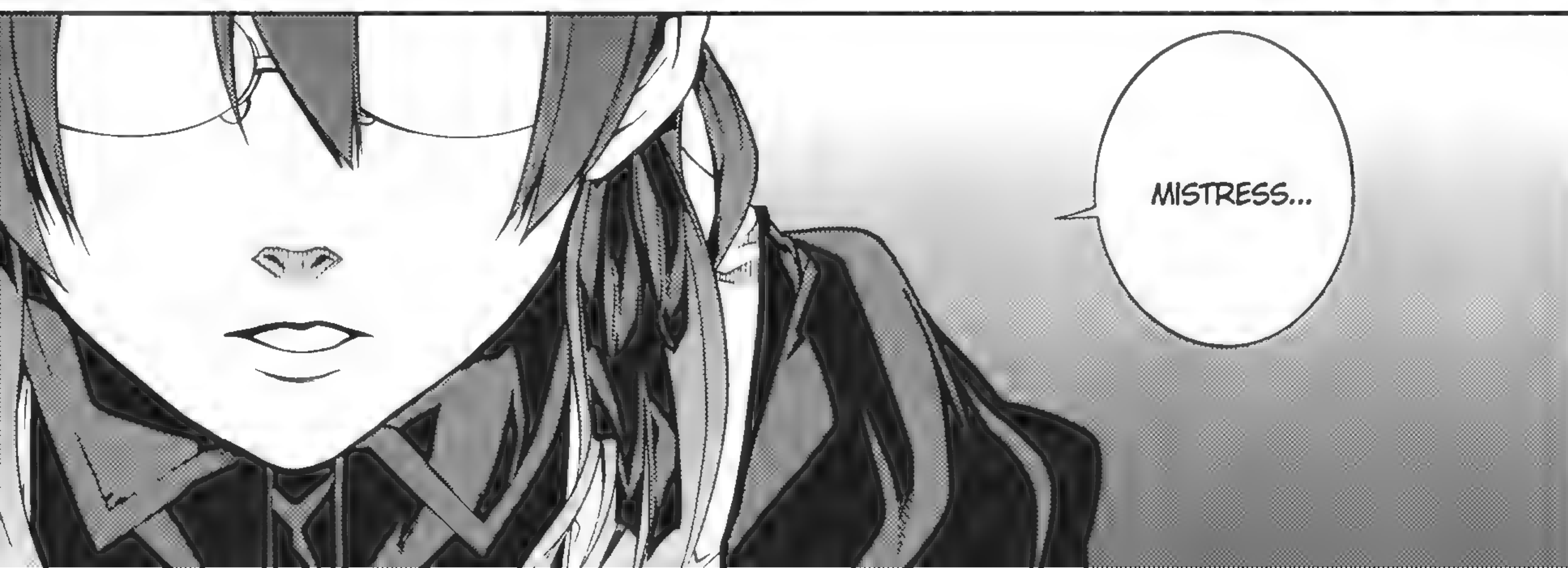
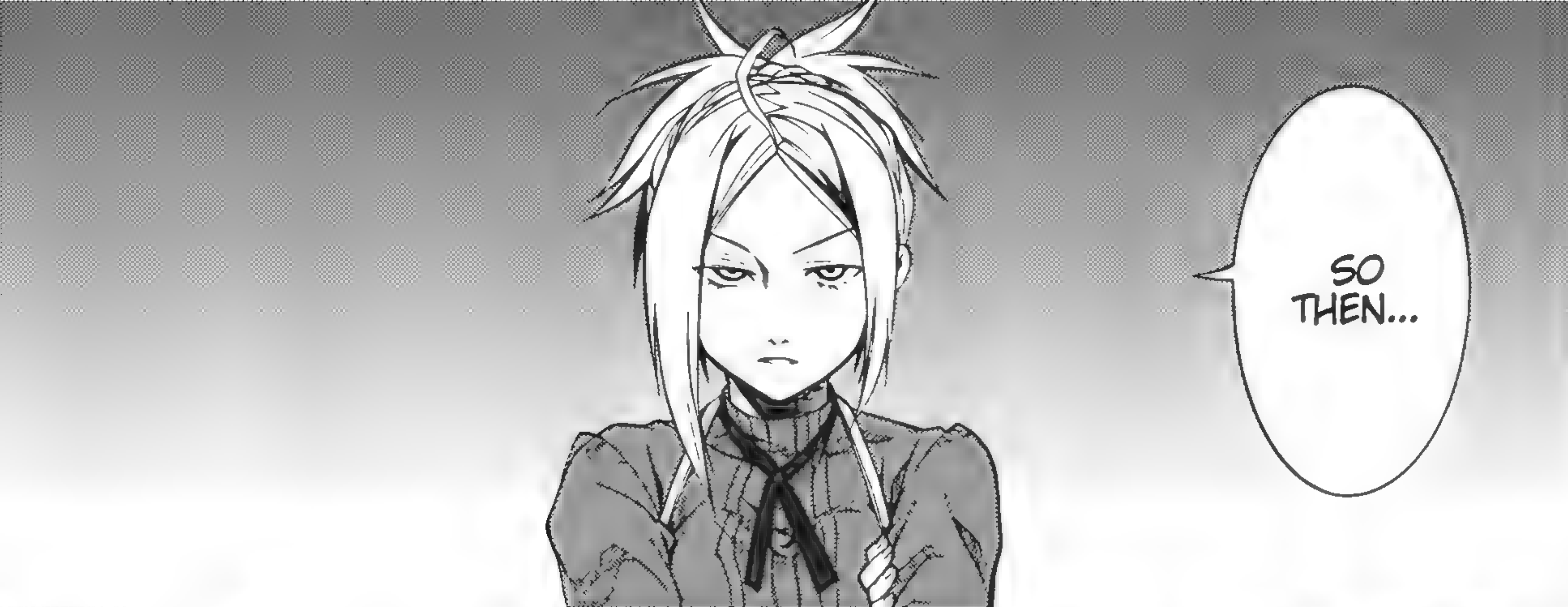
I'VE
HAD THESE
SYMPTOMS
FOR A WHILE
NOW, BUT...



I, TOO,
SEEM TO BE
PREGNANT.

MY
SINCEREST
APOLOGIES.







AND
HER BABY
HASN'T DONE
ANYTHING
WRONG.

LILIA
SHOULDN'T
HAVE TO
TAKE ALL
THE BLAME
HERE.

IF YOU
ASK ME, PAUL
IS THE ONE AT
FAULT SINCE
HE COULDN'T
KEEP IT IN HIS
PANTS.



ANYWAY...

THAT
YOU TWO
GET ALONG
VERY WELL.

I
KNOW...



I...

CLENCH

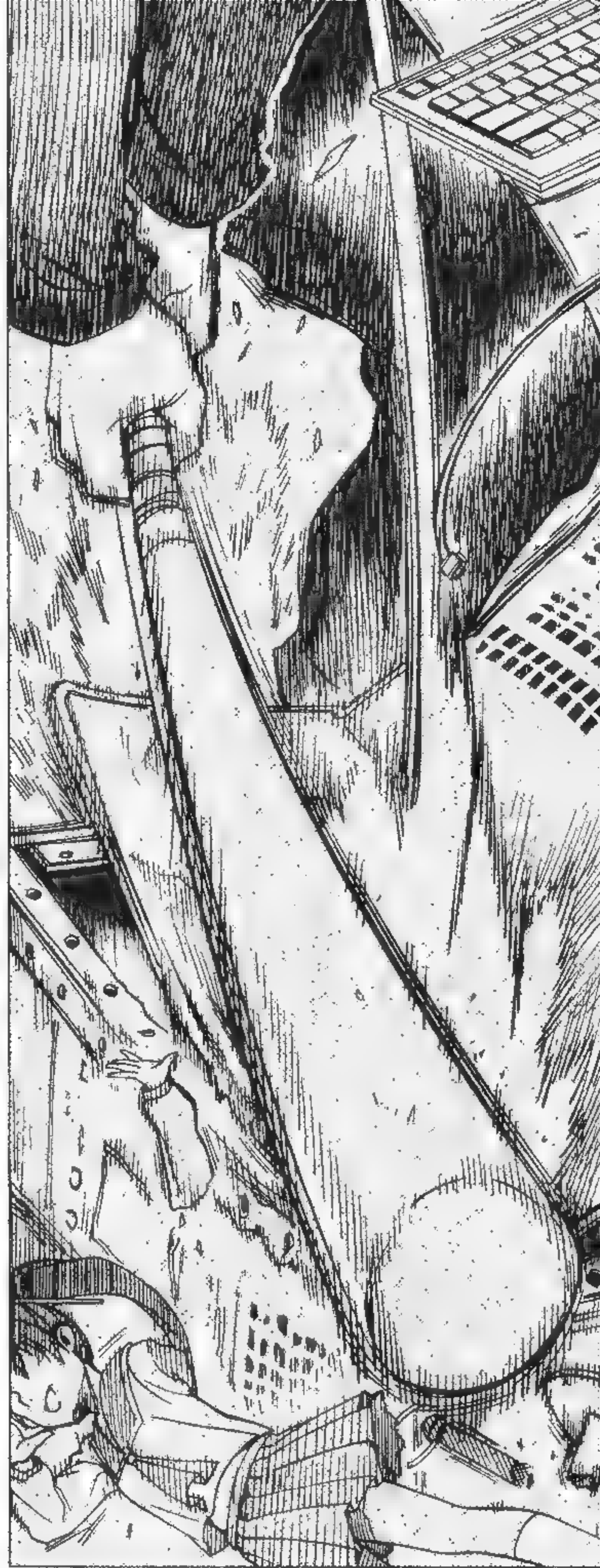


YOU'VE
LIVED
TOGETHER
FOR SIX
YEARS
ALREADY,
RIGHT?



THAT'S
RIGHT.

I'M
DIFFERENT
NOW.



MOMMY...

SO, I
CAN'T LET
IT END
LIKE THIS.

I WON'T
LET IT
HAPPEN!
EVER!

I'M
GOING TO
GET TWO
SIBLINGS
NOW.

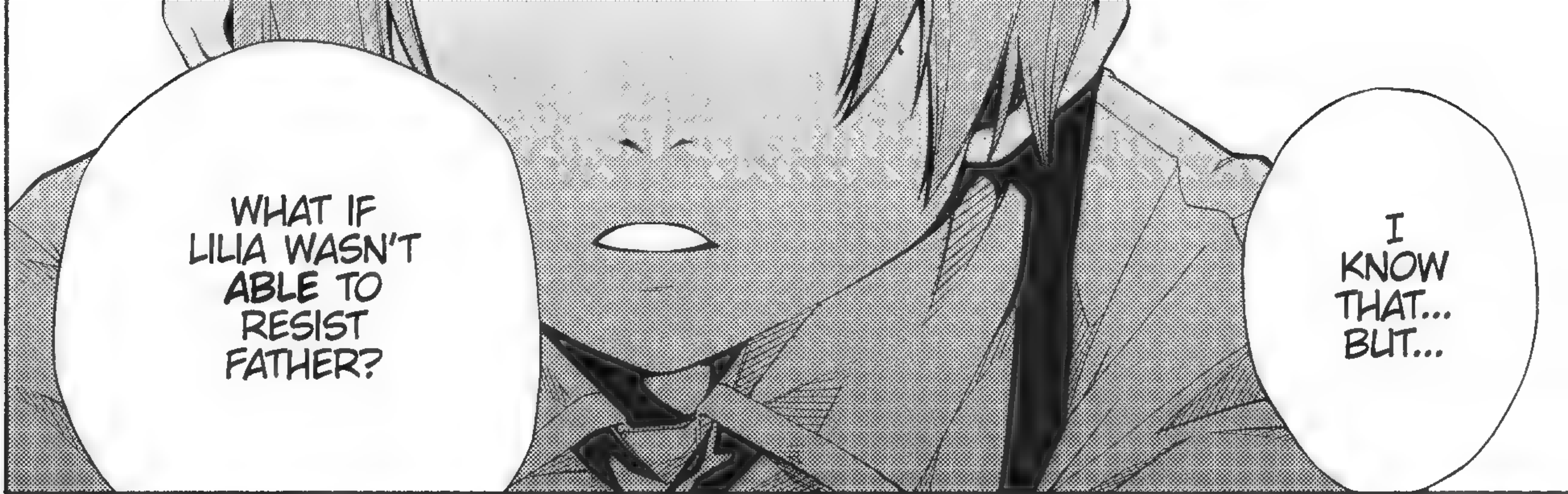
WHY IS
EVERYBODY
SO
UPSET?

わん
PUPPY
DOG
EYES

SIGH...

YOUR
FATHER
WENT AND
DID SOME-
THING HE
SHOULDN'T
HAVE.





WHAT IF
LILIA WASN'T
ABLE TO
RESIST
FATHER?

I
KNOW
THAT...
BUT...



FATHER
MUST'VE
TAKEN
ADVANTAGE
OF LILIA'S
WEAK-
NESS...!

WHICH IS
TOTALLY
A LIE,
RIGHT?



MMPH?!

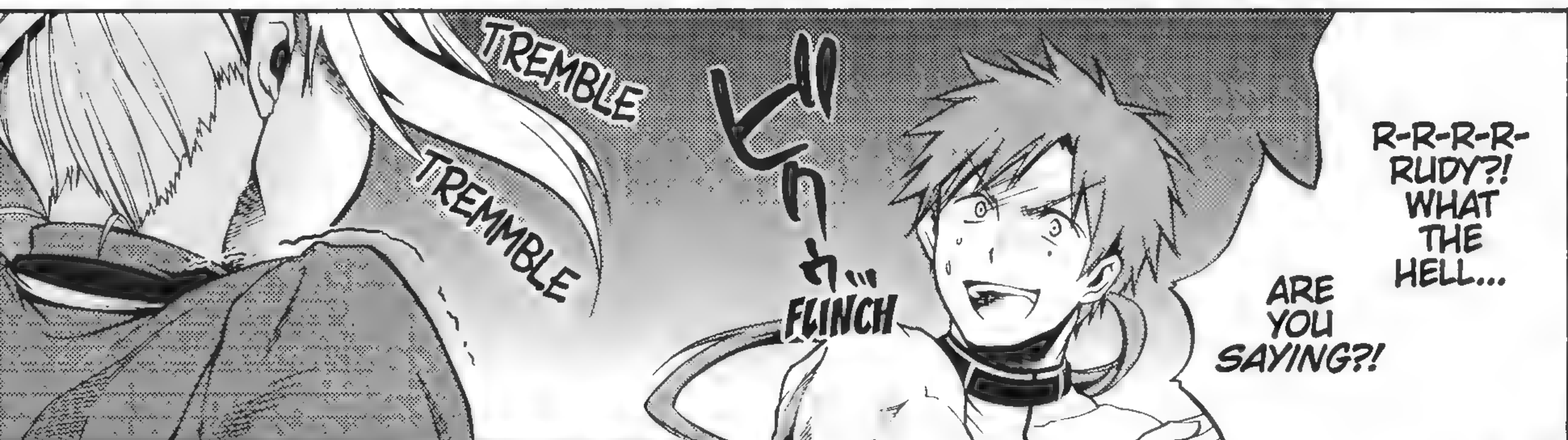
THE NIGHT
BEFORE, I
WOKE UP
TO USE THE
BATHROOM
WHEN...

IF YOU
DON'T
WANT ME
TO SAY
ANYTHING
ABOUT
THAT...

KEEP
QUIET AND
DO AS
YOU'RE
TOLD!!

LILIA...

STROKE





I ADMIRE
ZENITH FOR
STAYING
SO CALM,
CONSIDERING
SHE WAS JUST
BETRAYED BY
HER HUSBAND
AND MAID.

IF I
WERE HER,
I WOULD HAVE
KICKED THEM
BOTH OUT
ALREADY.

BESIDES,
DON'T YOU
THINK MY NEW
BROTHER OR
SISTER SHOULD
HAVE A FRIEND
THEIR OWN
AGE?

CLUMP

RUDY?!



BUT
MORE THAN
ANYTHING...
MOST
IMPORTANTLY...



THAT'S
TRUE...

LILIA SEEMS
CONTENT TO
ACCEPT ANY
PUNISHMENT
TOO.

I LIKE
BEING
WITH
SYLPHIE
EVERY
DAY!



SO NO
MATTER
WHAT...

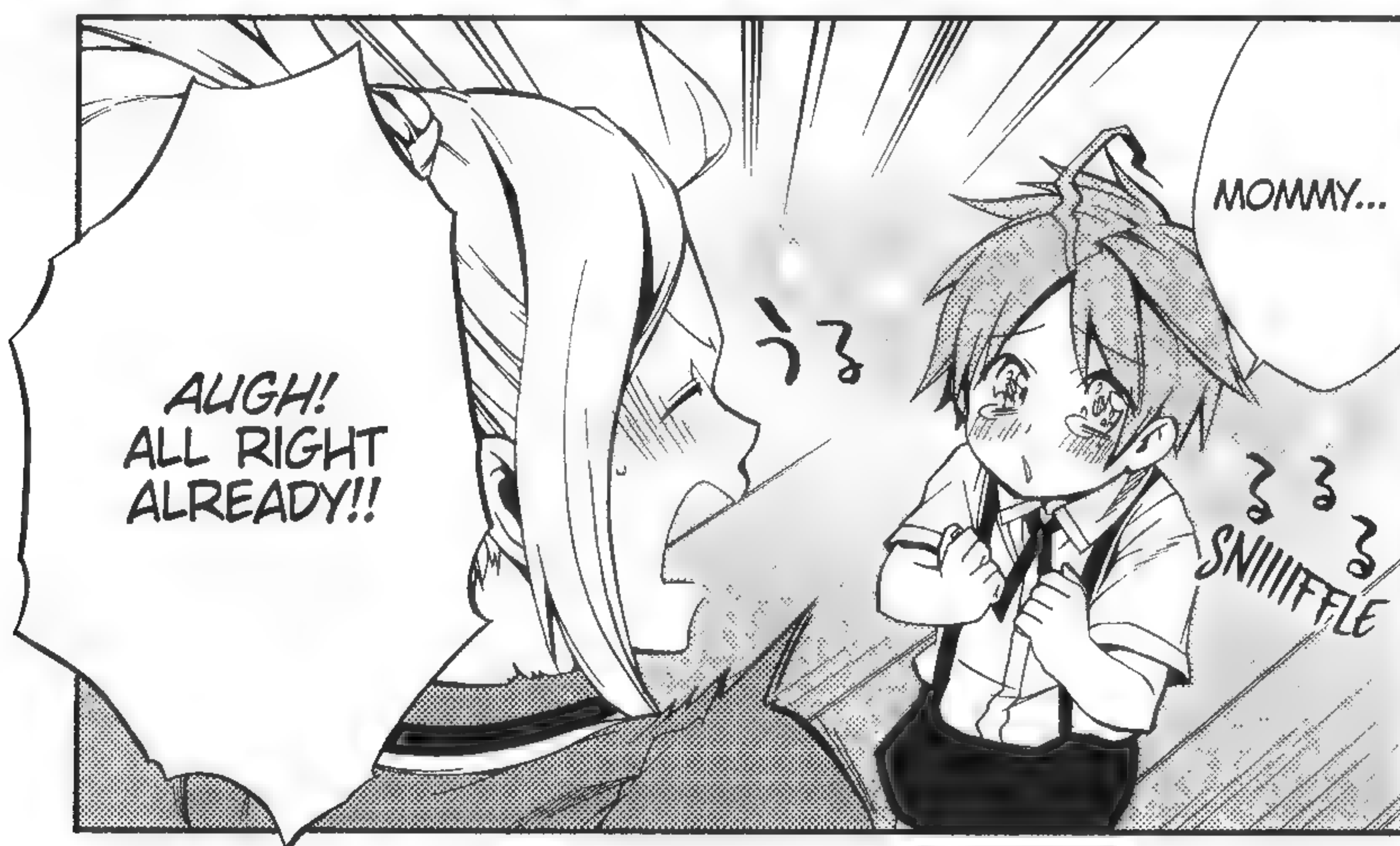


I'M
GOING TO
RETURN
THE
FAVOR!!

AND, I
MEAN...



LILIA DIDN'T
TELL ANYONE
ABOUT THE
TREASURE
SHE FOUND
WHILE SHE WAS
CLEANING.





AND
YOU'RE
TO RAISE
RUDY'S
SIBLINGS
AS WELL!!



BOTH
OF
THEM!!



GOT
IT?!



YOU
ARE TO
STAY
HERE!!

YOU'RE
FAMILY, SO I
WON'T ALLOW
YOU TO LEAVE
WITHOUT
PERMISSION!

GOOD
JOB,
MOTHER.

SLAM

A
HAPPY
ENDING
AFTER
ALL!

HUFF

SAKES
ALIVE!

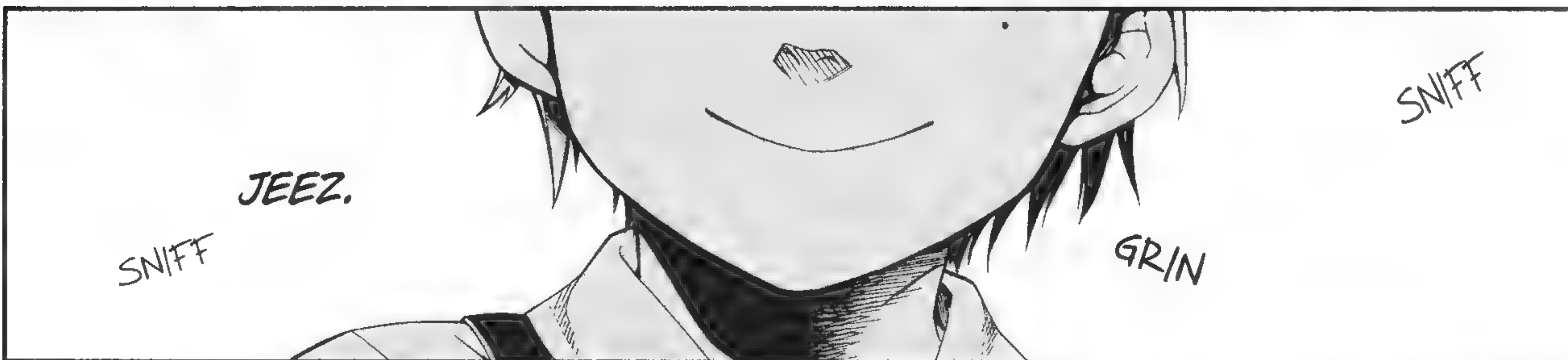
HUFF

カッ
BOWL

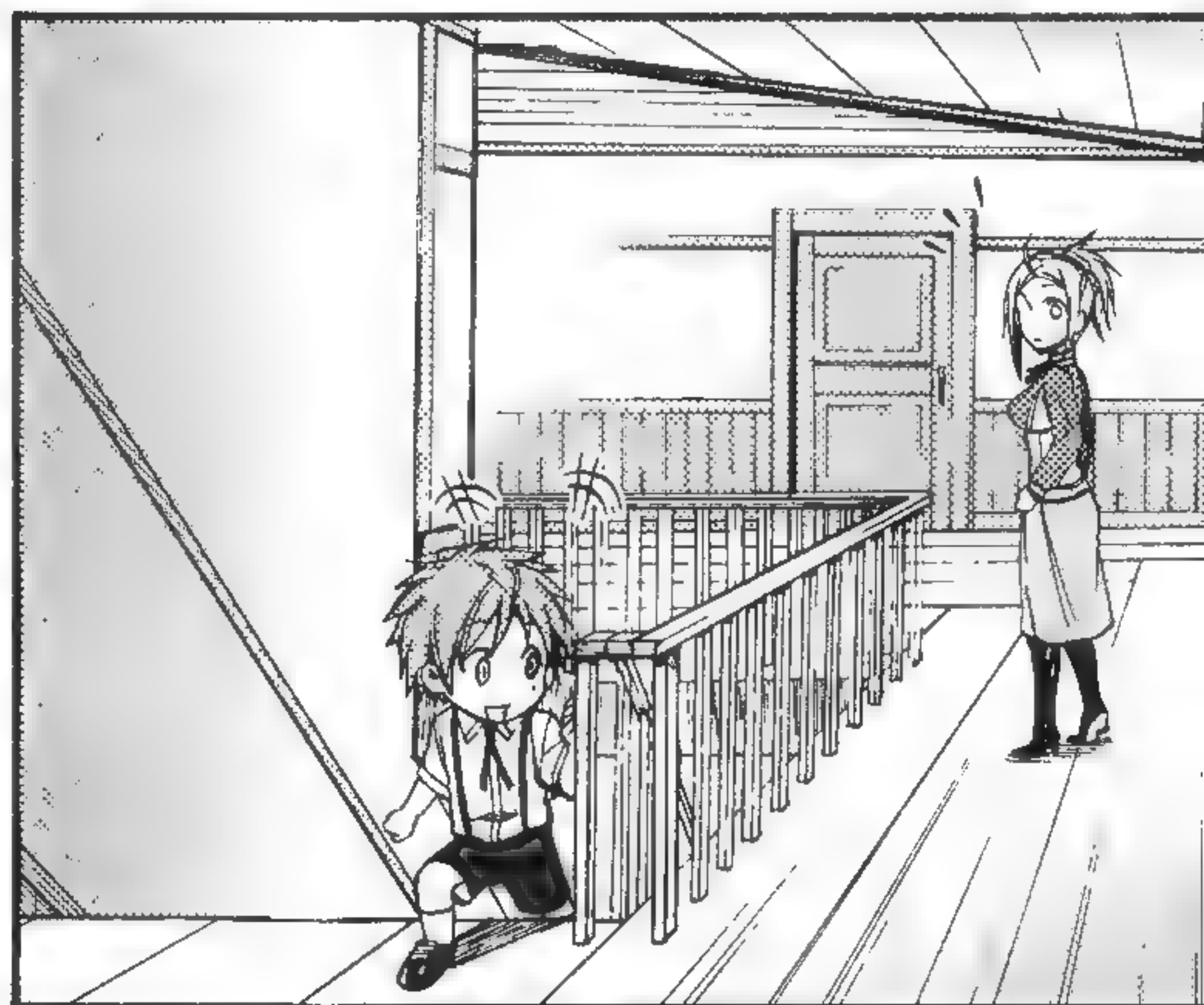
I'M SO
SORRY,
DADDY!!

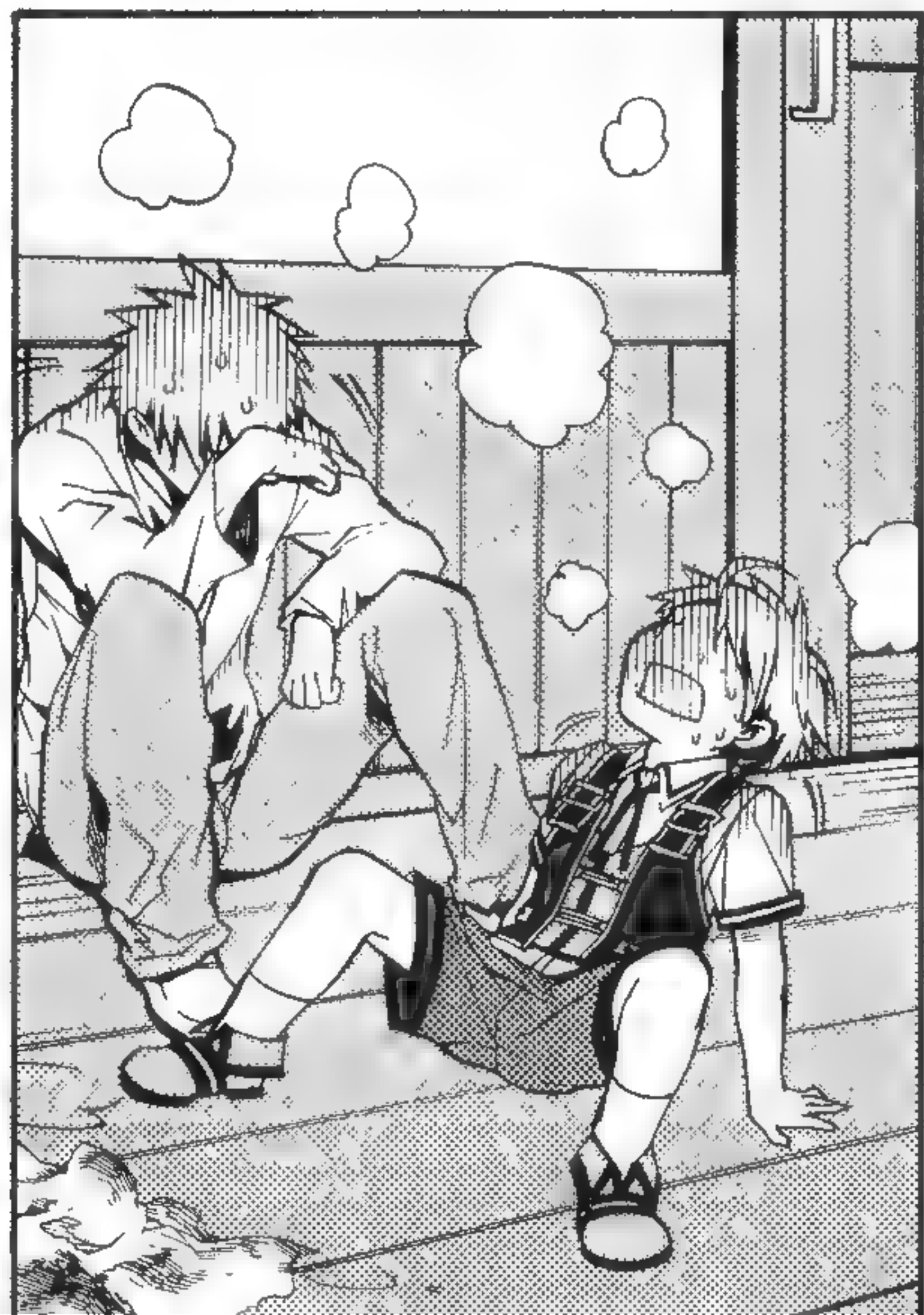
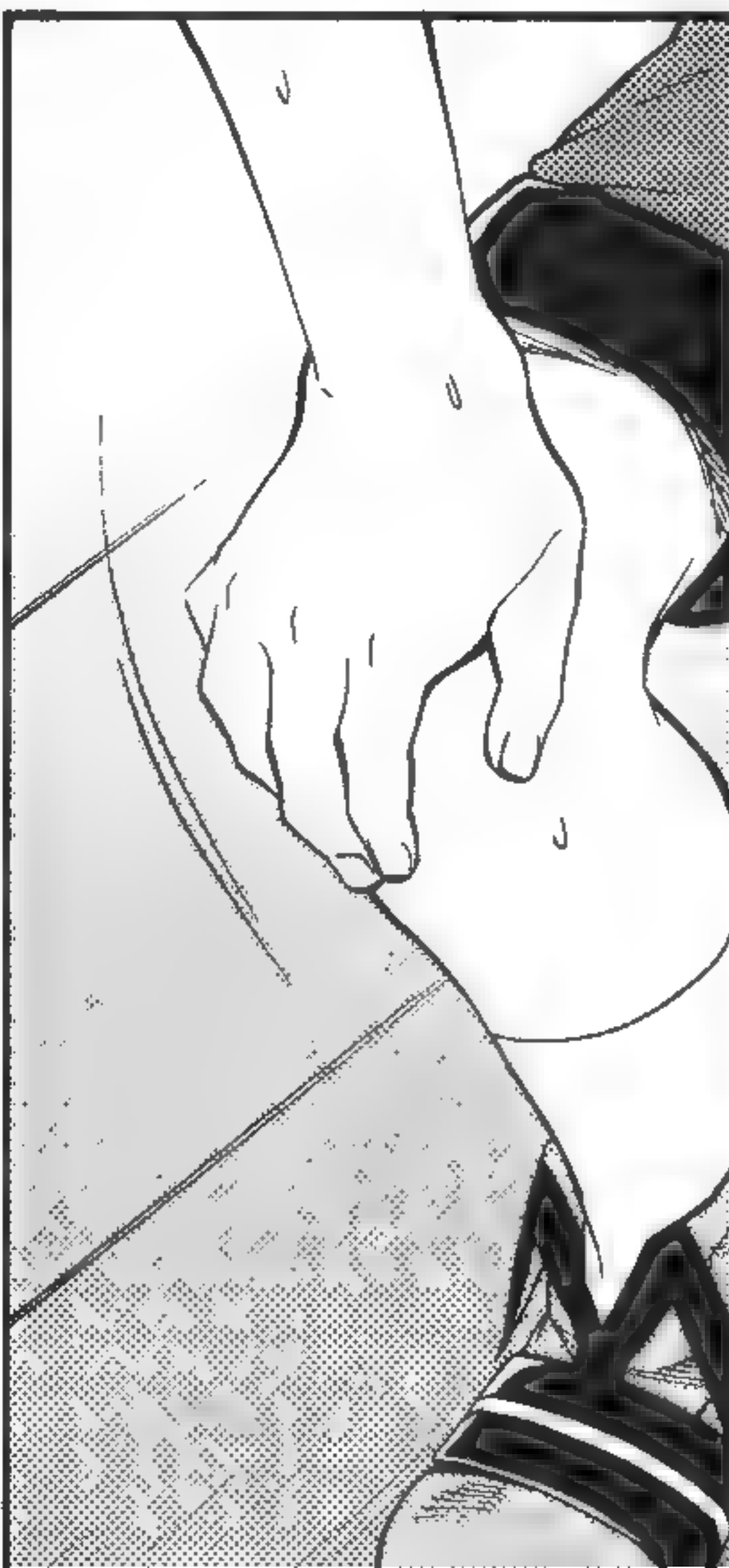
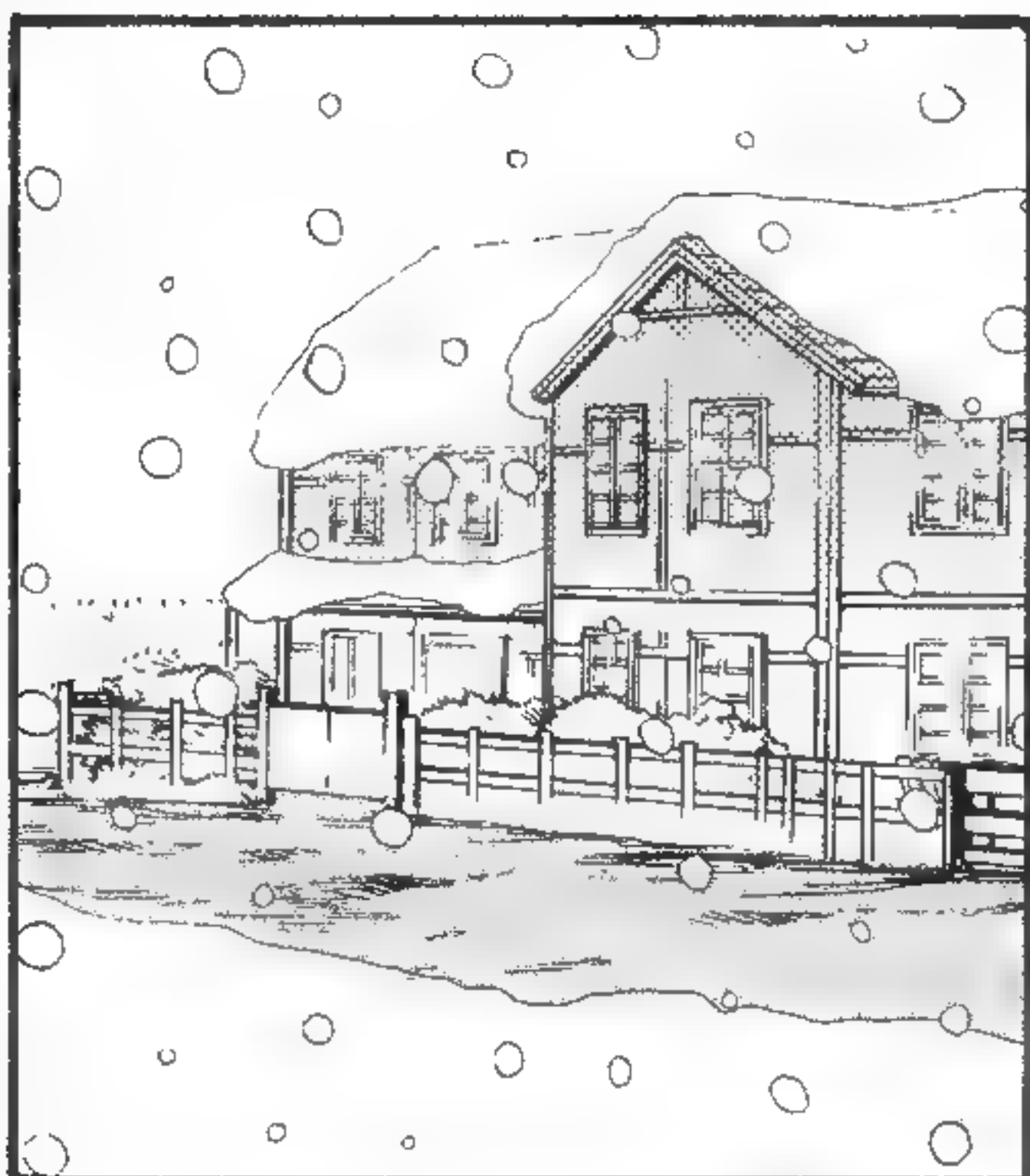
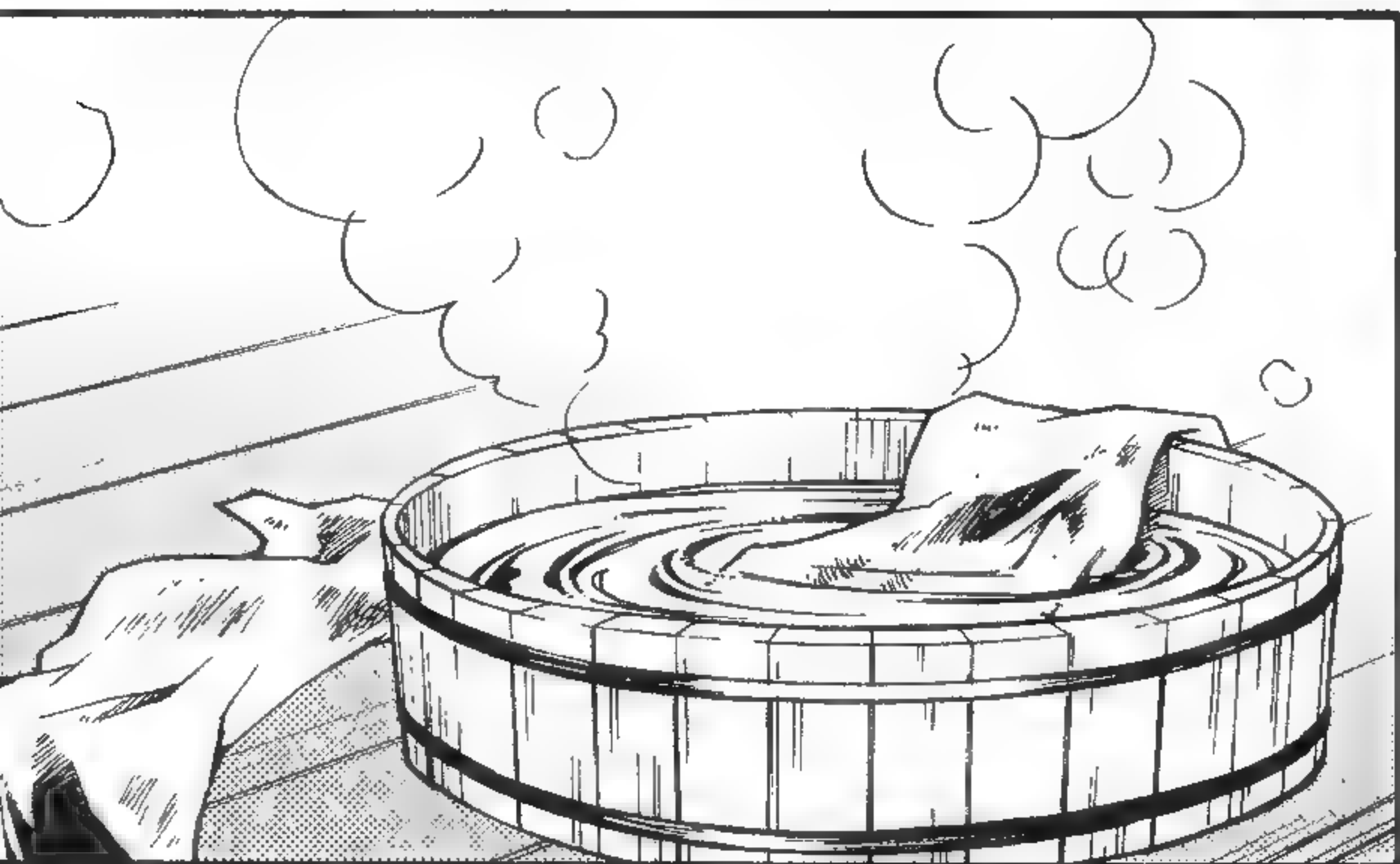
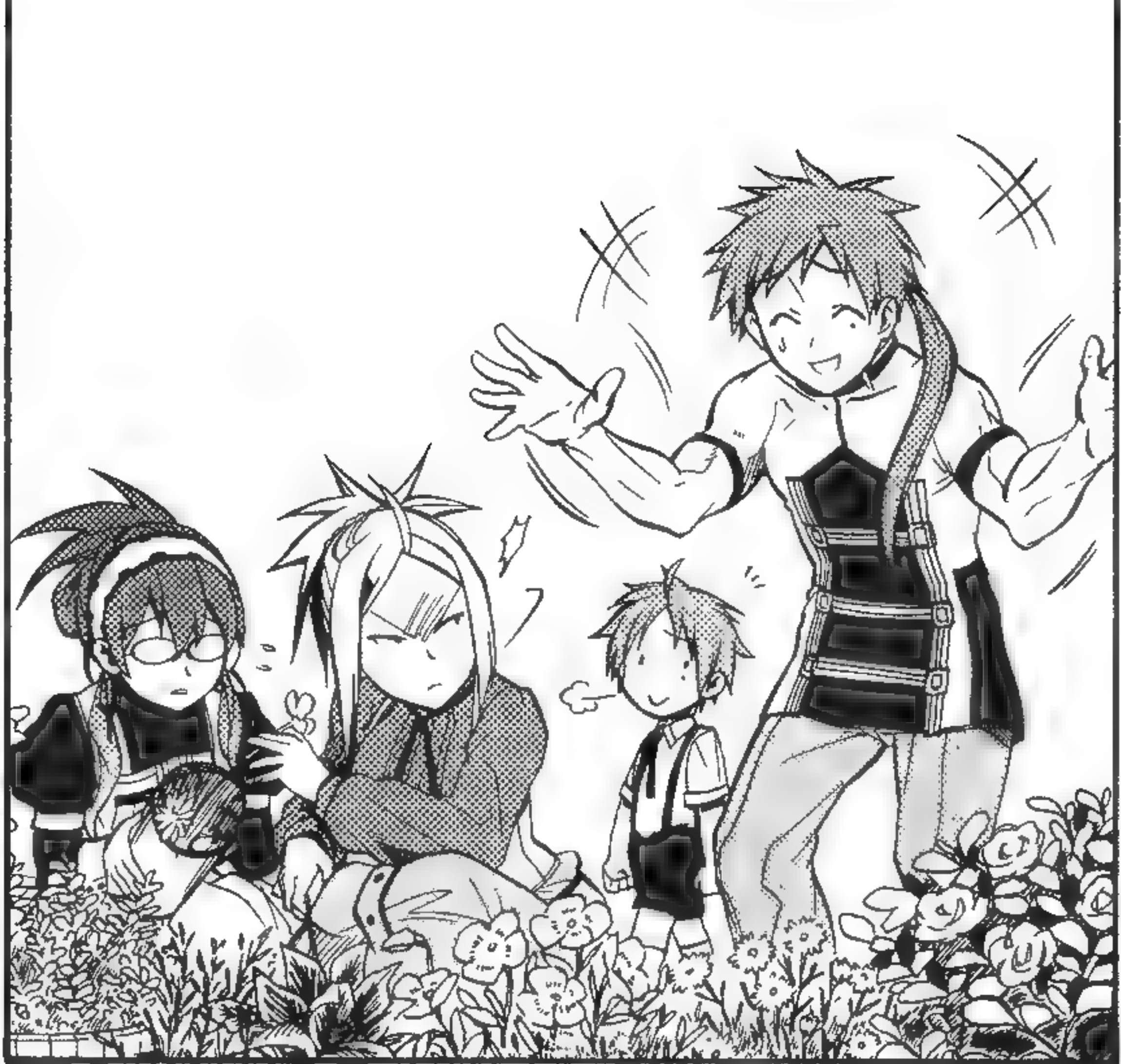
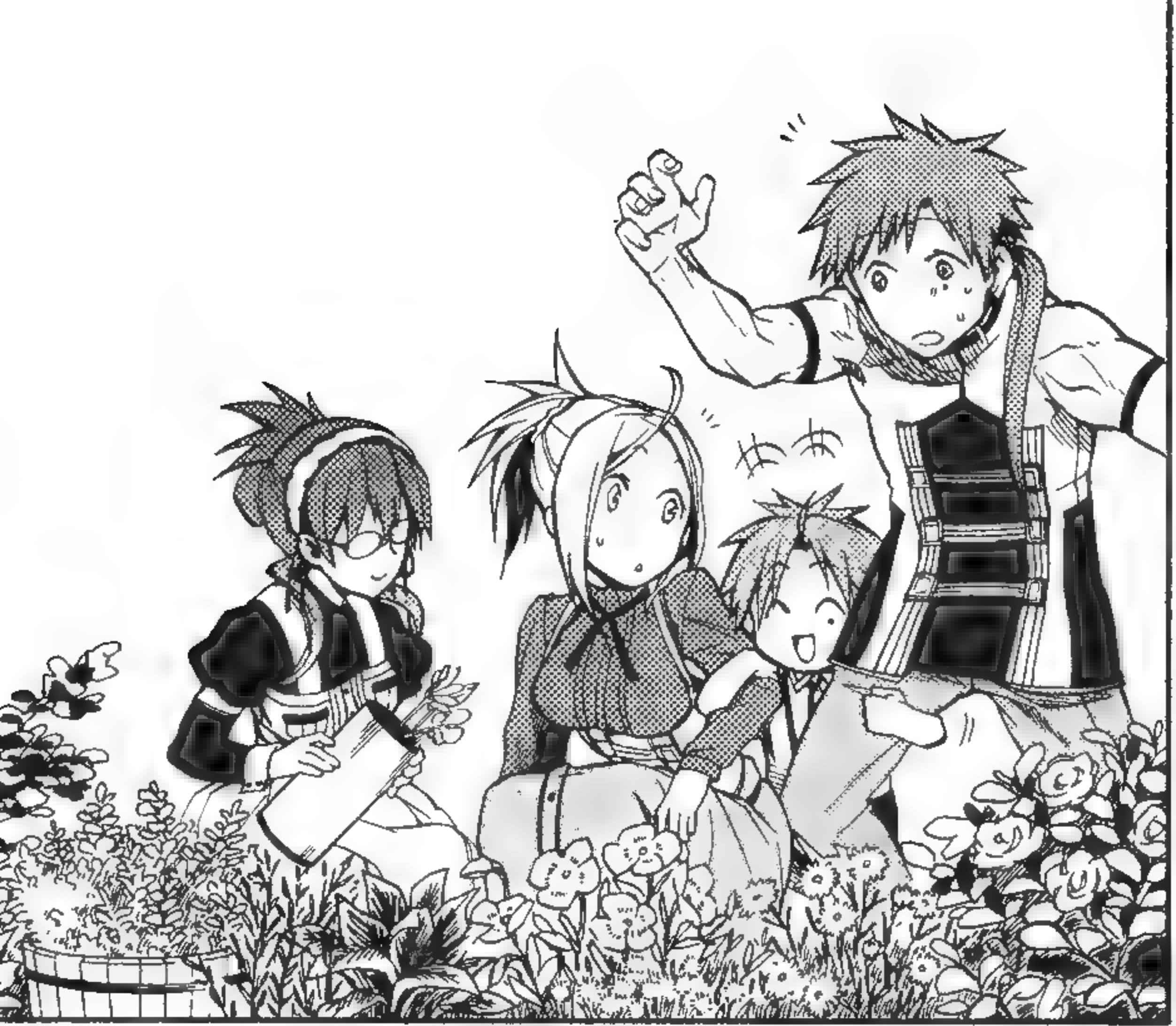
AND
NOW...

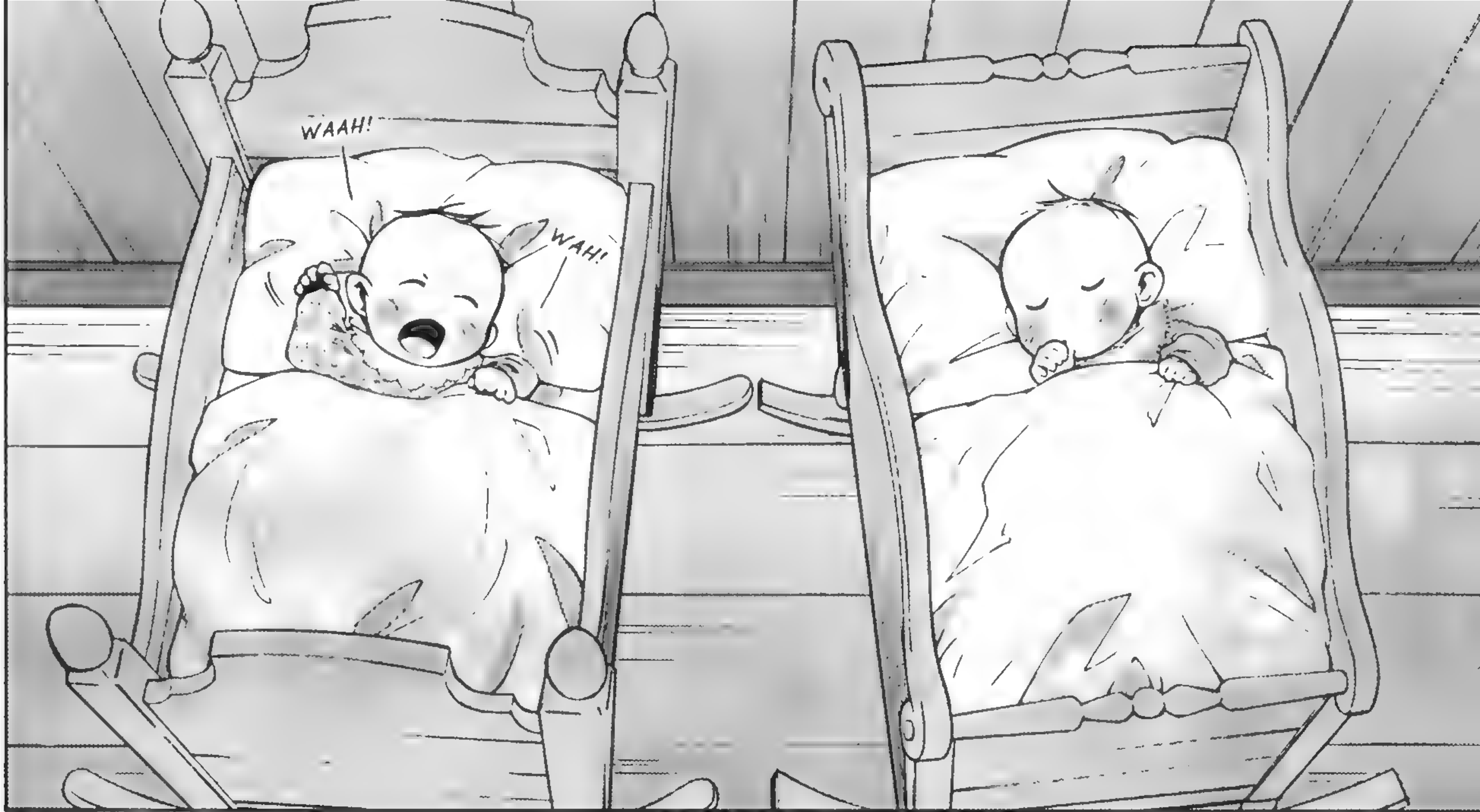
I'LL GO
AND TELL
MOMMY THAT
I MADE UP
THE WHOLE
STORY...



A reference to
"The conch shell is
large, but empty,"
a Japanese saying
that means there
is no substance to
a story. →







WAAH!

WAAH!



WE'VE
BEEN
THROUGH
A LOT,
BUT...



WHY DOES
WATER
BECOME...
STEAM?
WHEN YOU
HEAT IT?

HEY,
RUDY...

AROUND
THE TIME
I TURNED
SEVEN, MY
TWO LITTLE
SISTERS
WERE BORN.



HM...

SYLPHIE'S
PROGRESS
IS AMAZING.



OH,
THAT'S
BECAUSE...



RUDY.

**KNOCK
KNOCK**

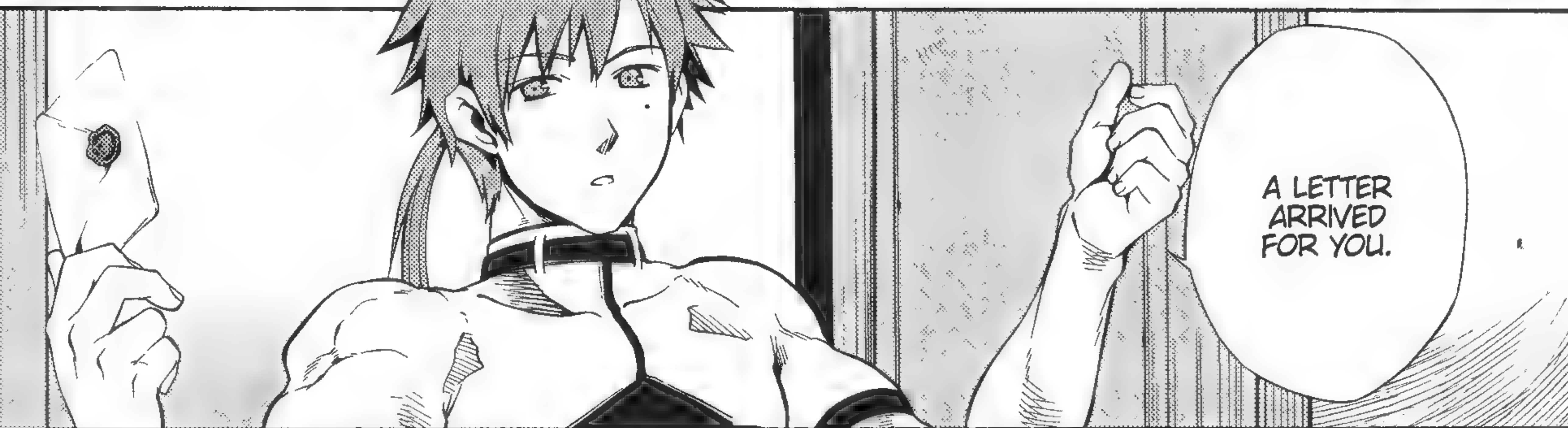
RU--

...



COMPARED
TO HER...

I HAVEN'T
IMPROVED
MUCH SINCE
ROXY LEFT.



A LETTER
ARRIVED
FOR YOU.



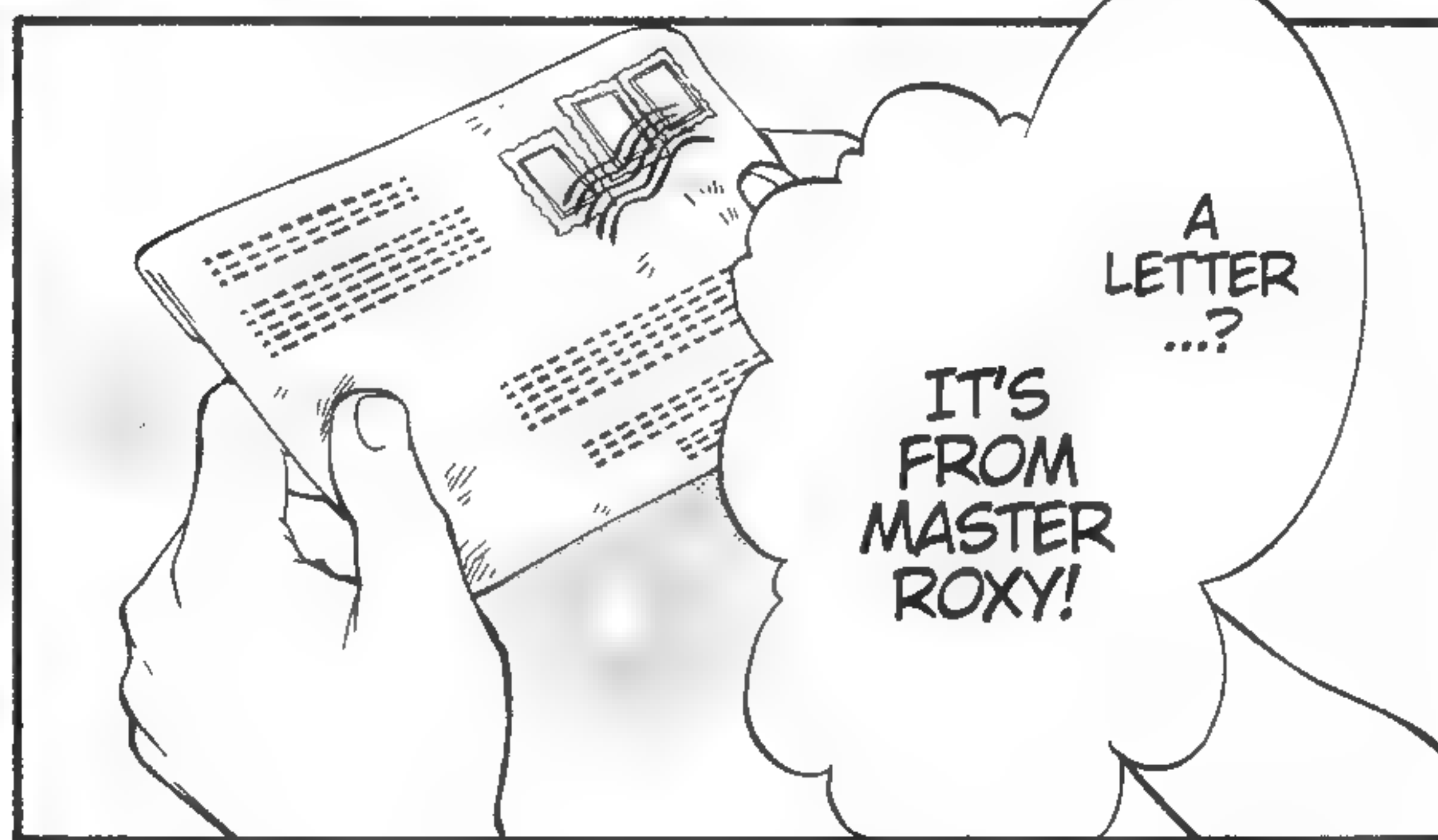
UH OH.
IS SYLPHIE
JEALOUS?

HMM-
MPH...

POUT

WAIT,
DOES THAT
MEAN I
DON'T NEED
TO PLAY
CLUELESS
ANYMORE?!

ABOUT
TIME...



A
LETTER
...?

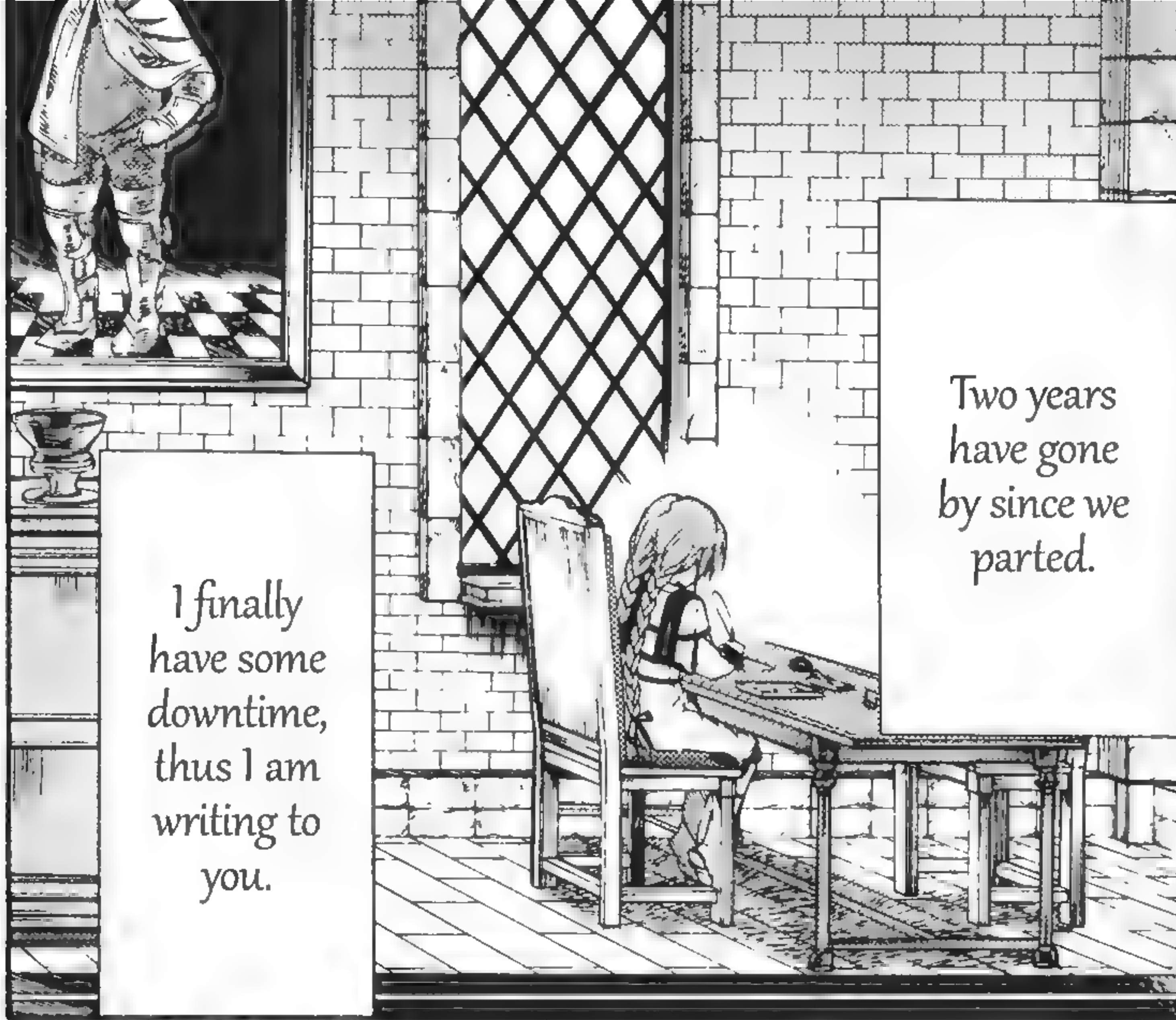
IT'S
FROM
MASTER
ROXY!



GLITTER!

YEAH,
THE REALLY
CUTE ONE
WITH LONG
HAIR IN
BRAIDS!

ROXY...
YOU MEAN
THE AMAZING
TEACHER
YOU'RE ALWAYS
TALKING
ABOUT?

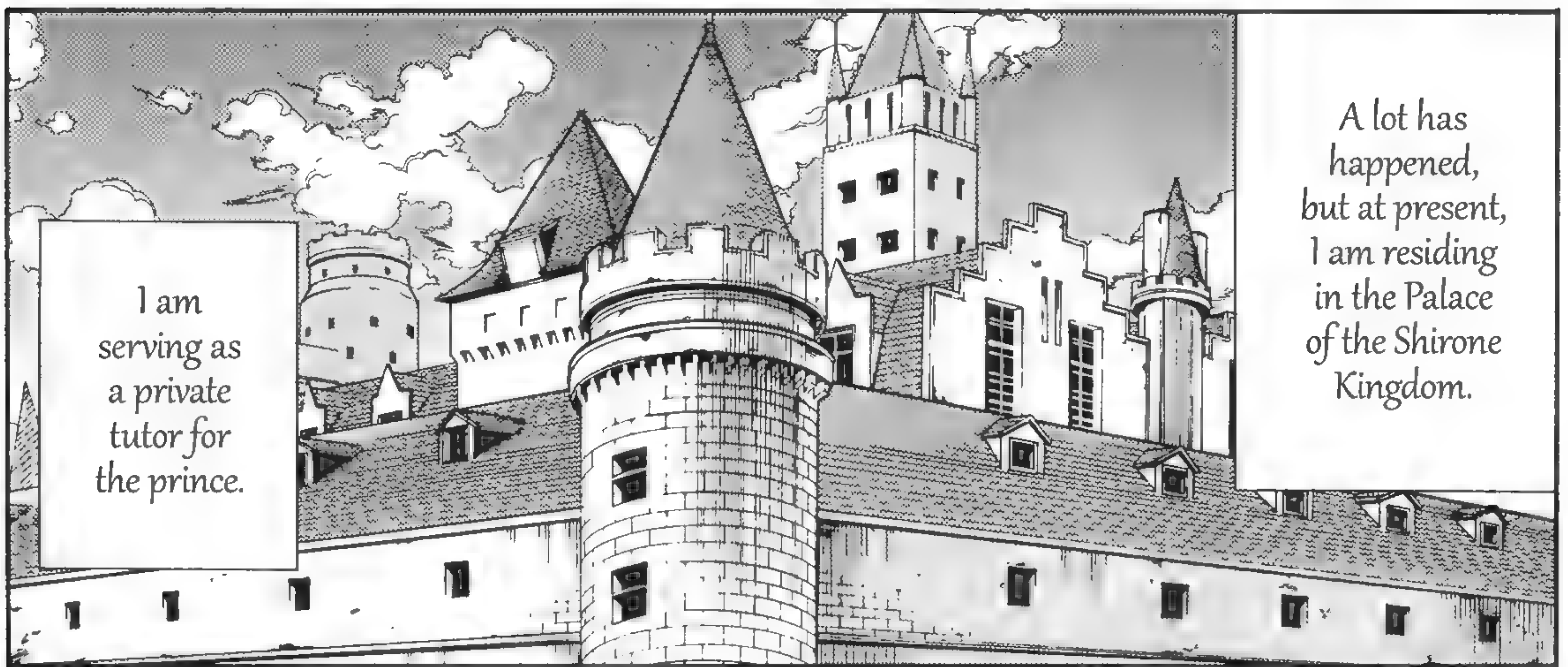


I finally have some downtime, thus I am writing to you.

Two years have gone by since we parted.



Dear Rudeus,
Are you doing well?



I am serving as a private tutor for the prince.

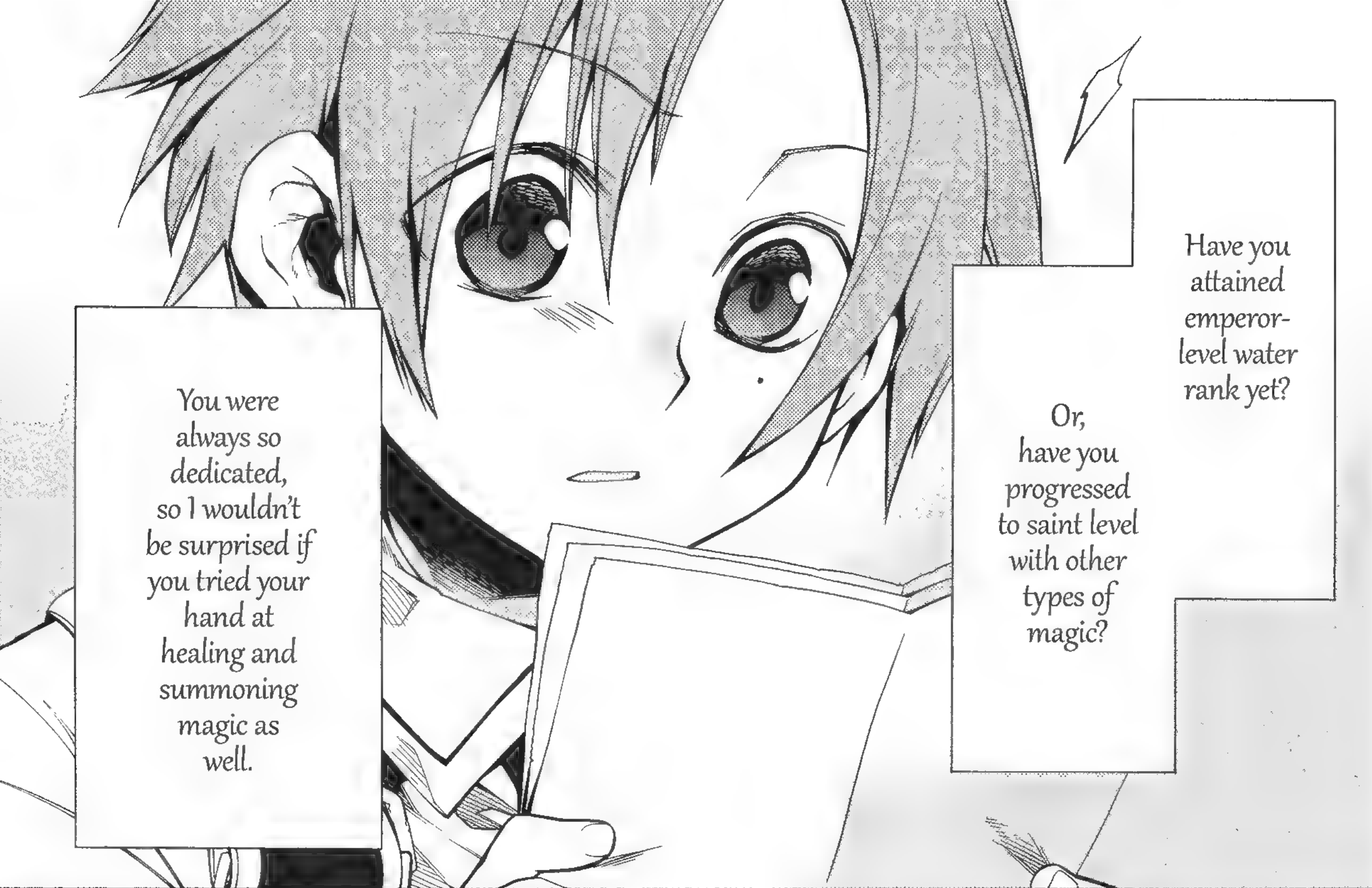
A lot has happened, but at present, I am residing in the Palace of the Shirone Kingdom.



There were volumes written about it in the palace library.

I have finally become able to use king-level water magic.

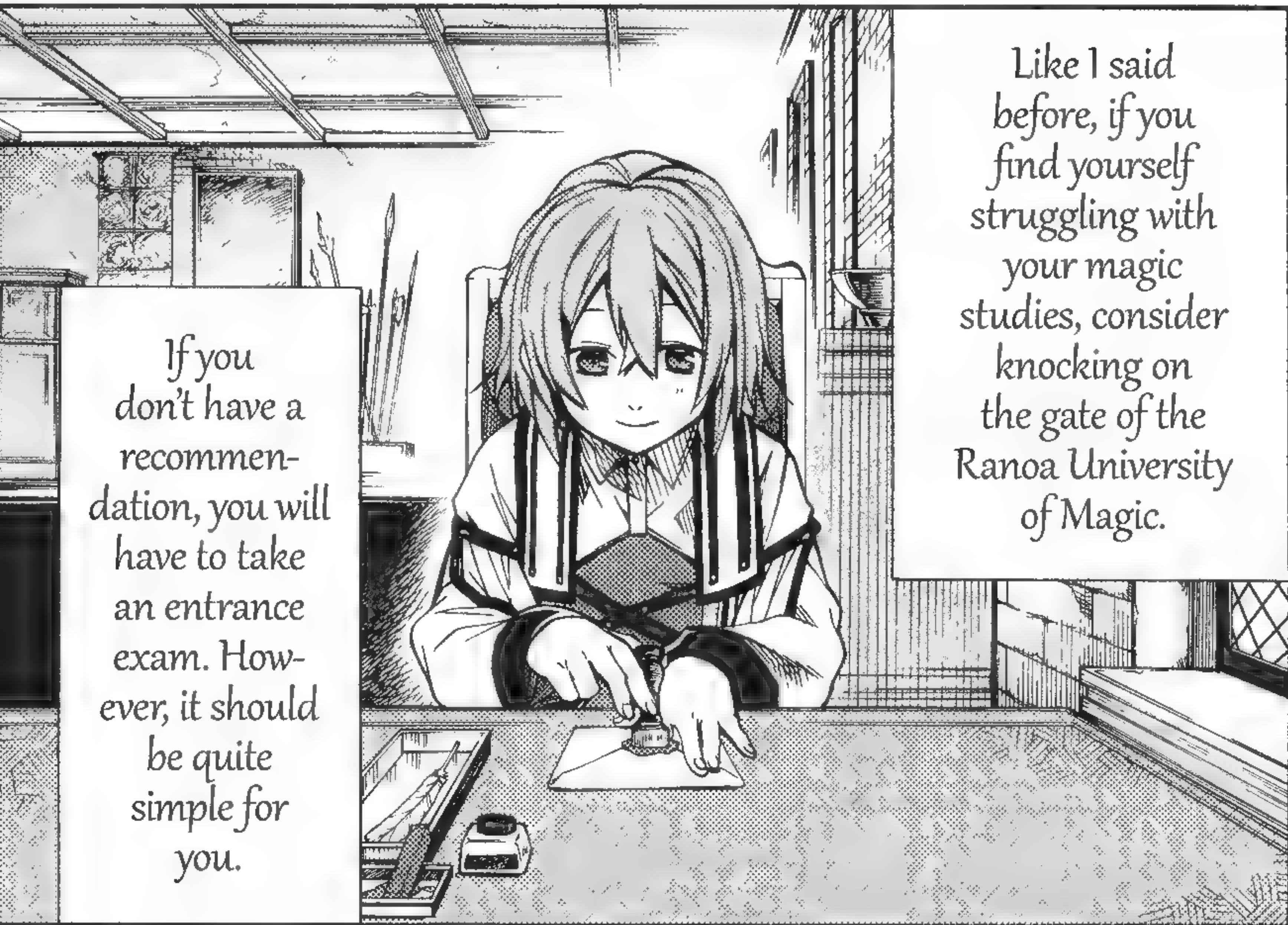
It was meant to be a limited engagement. However, it appears they intend to appoint me as the palace magician.



You were always so dedicated, so I wouldn't be surprised if you tried your hand at healing and summoning magic as well.

Or, have you progressed to saint level with other types of magic?

Have you attained emperor-level water rank yet?



If you don't have a recommendation, you will have to take an entrance exam. However, it should be quite simple for you.

Like I said before, if you find yourself struggling with your magic studies, consider knocking on the gate of the Ranoa University of Magic.

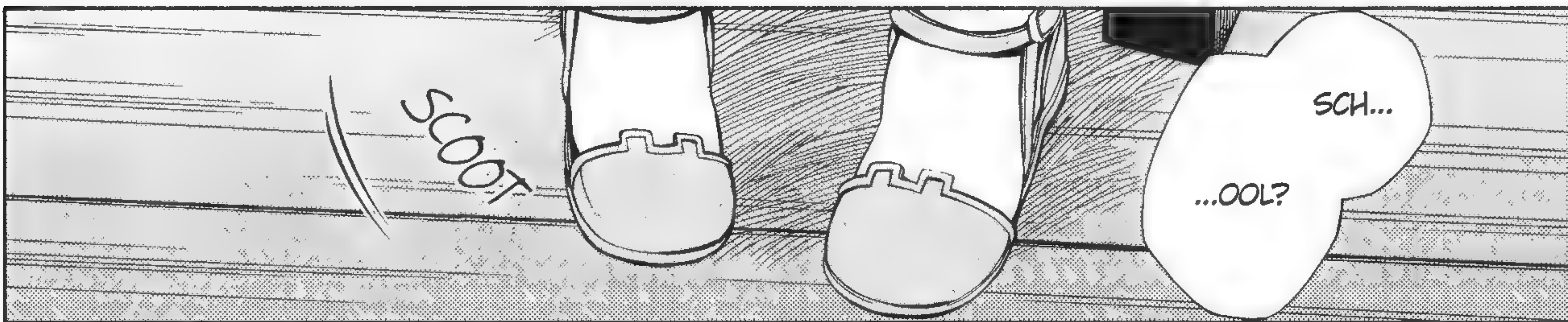


Starting now, I will begin working towards god-level water magic.



SHFF...

Until we meet again.
Sincerely,
Rany







SYLPHIE
WOULD'BE
ALONE
AGAIN.

THE
ONLY FRIEND
SYLPHIE HAS...
IS ME.

IF I WERE
TO VANISH
ALL OF A
SUDDEN...



I
UNDERSTAND,
SYLPHIE.

I'M ALL
SYLPHIE
HAS.

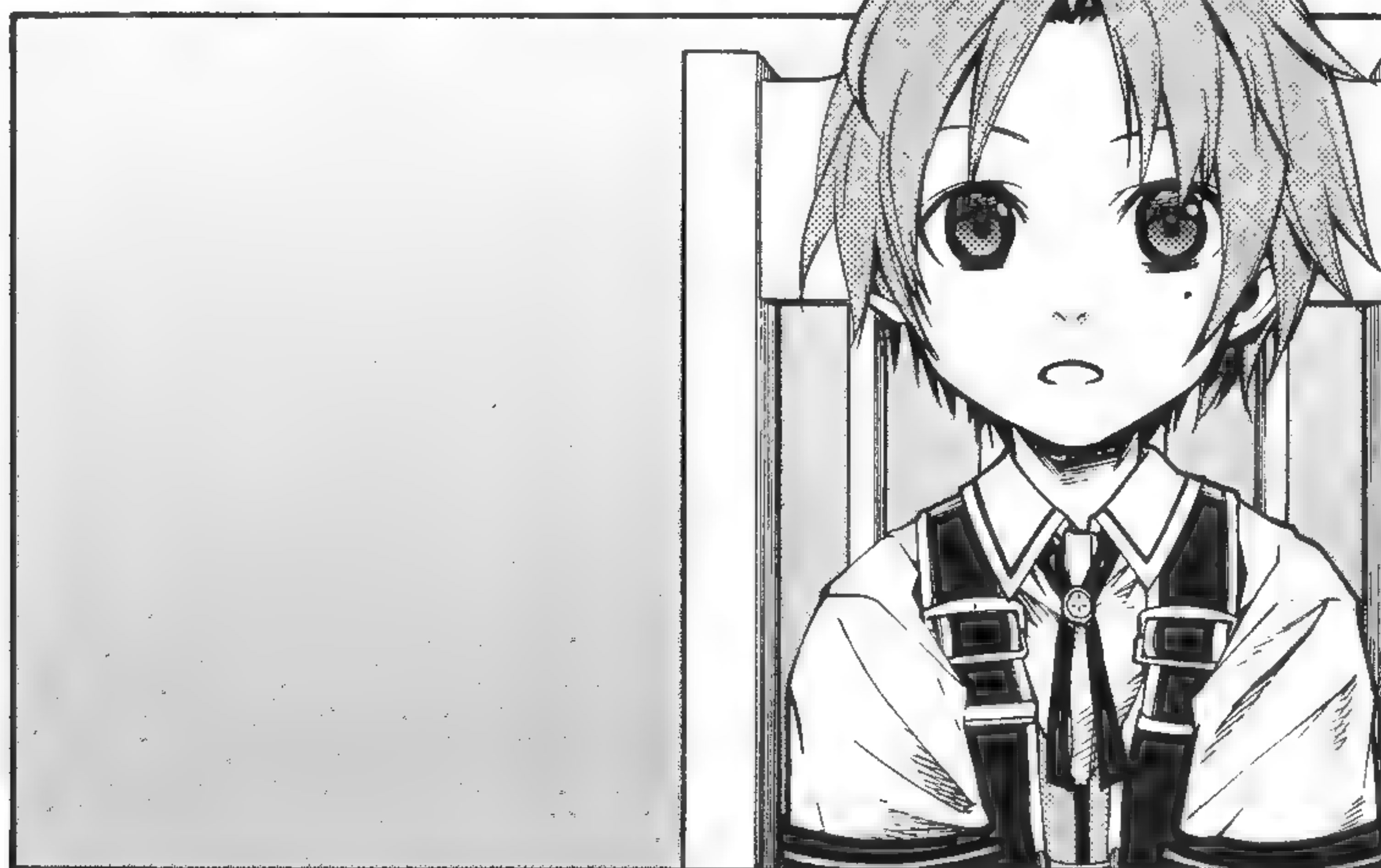
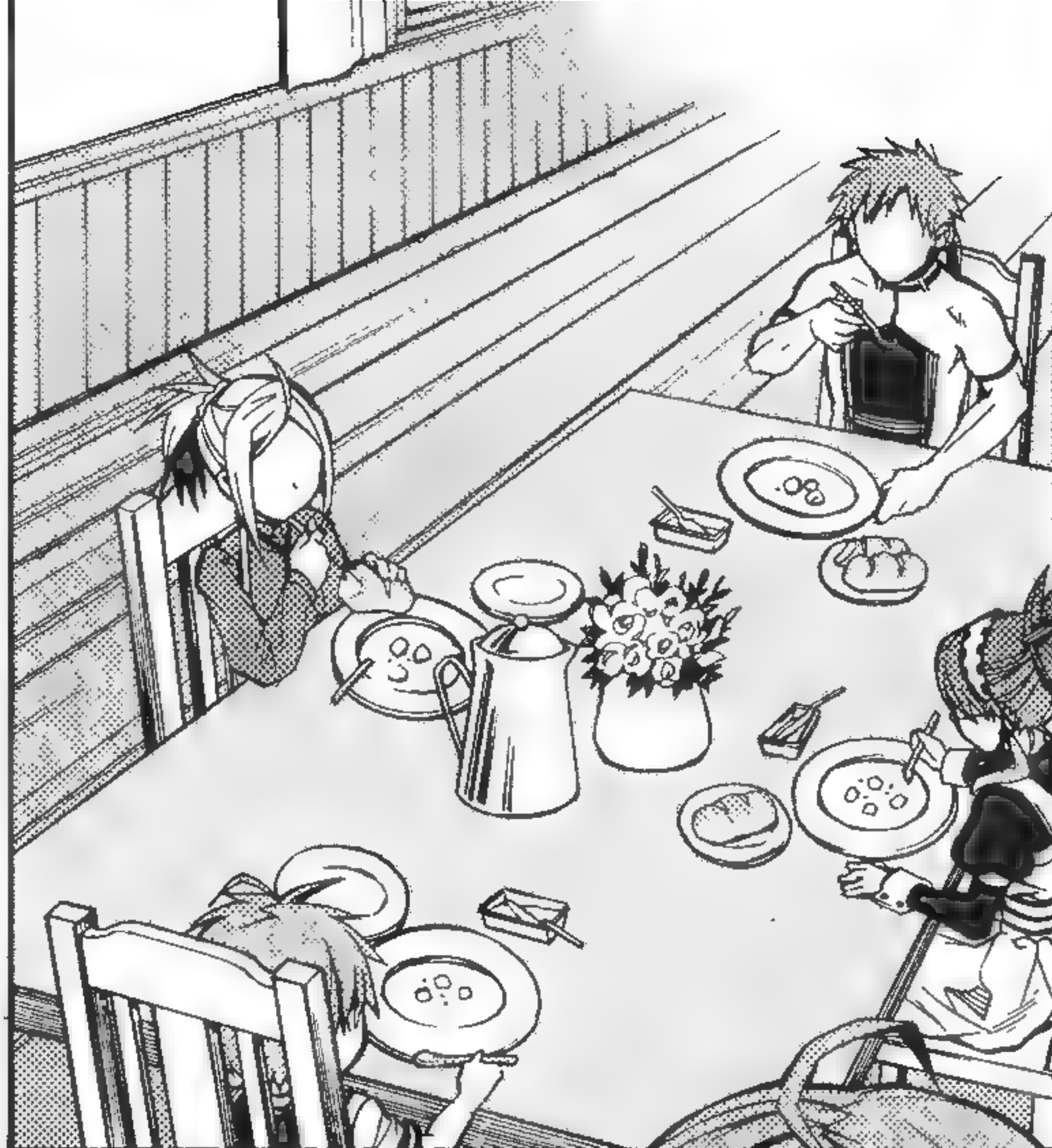


I WON'T
GO OFF ON
MY OWN AND
LEAVE YOU
ALONE. I
PROMISE.



IF I
WERE
TO GO
SOME-
WHERE...





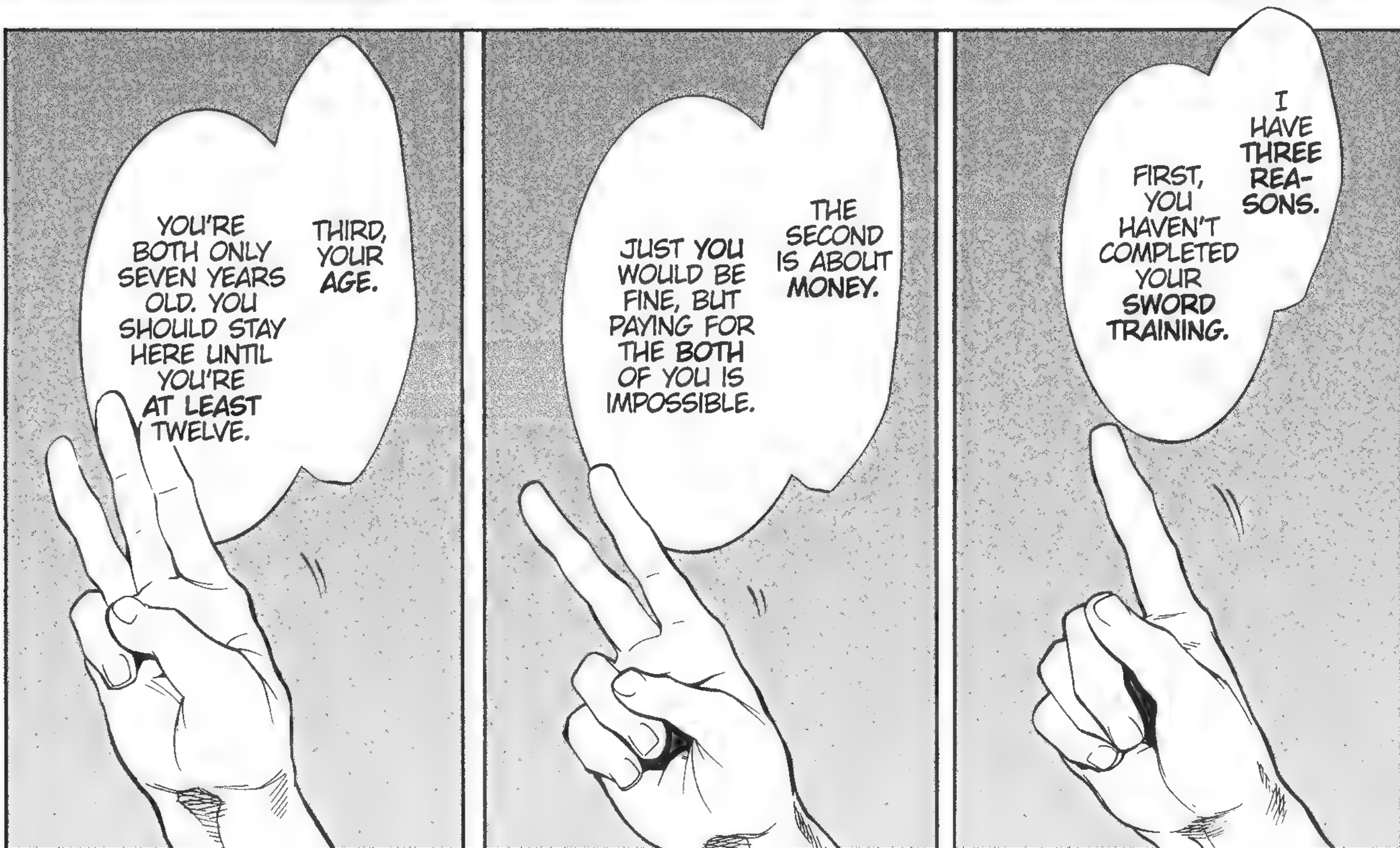
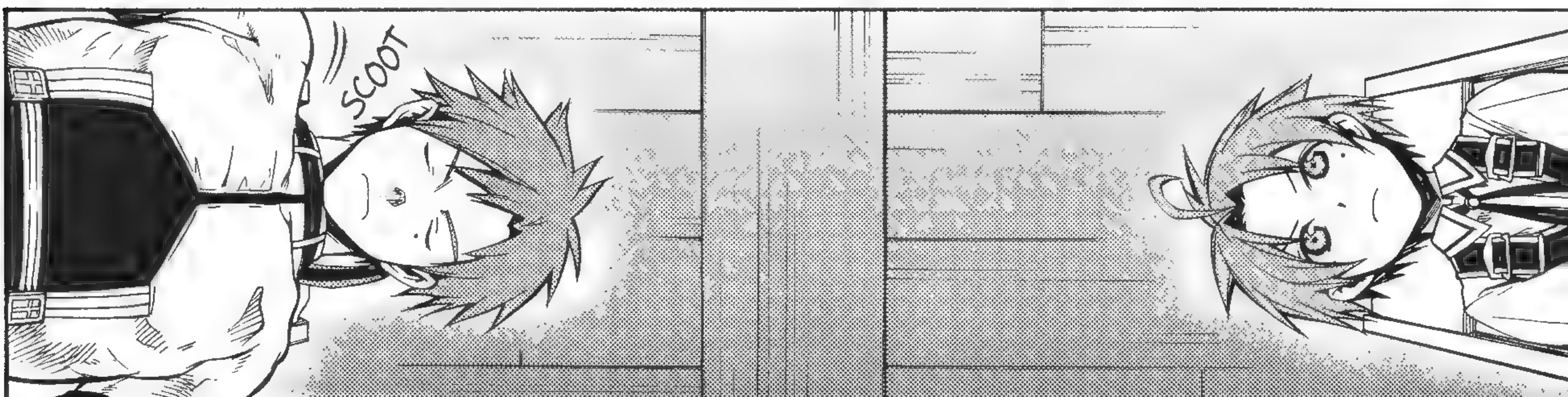
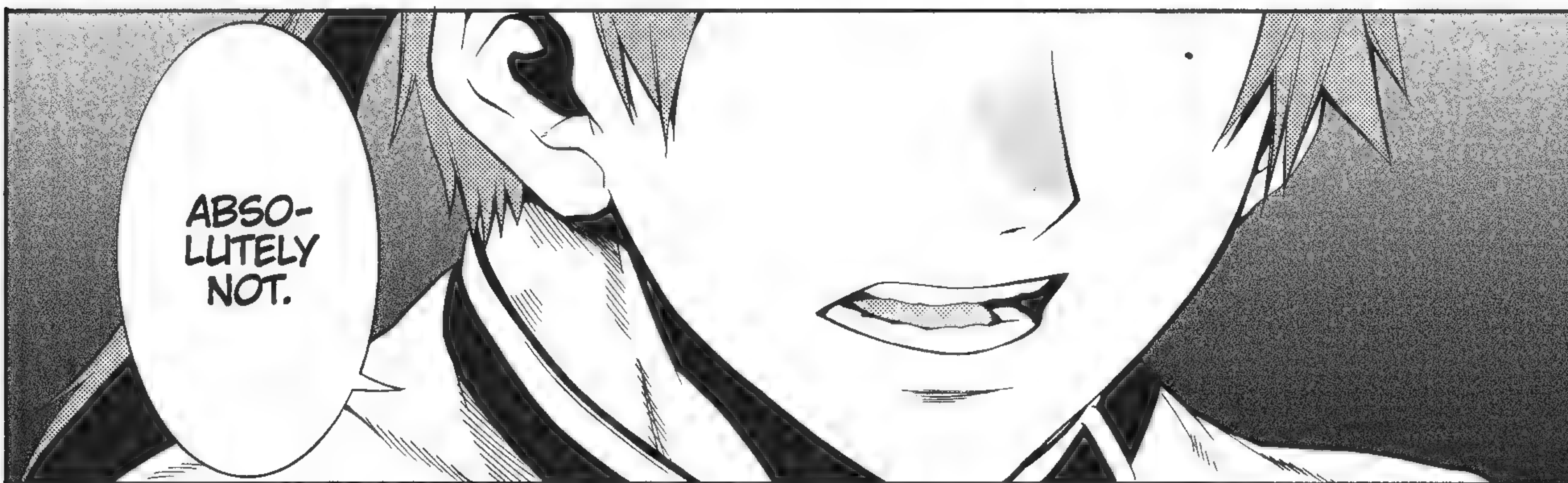
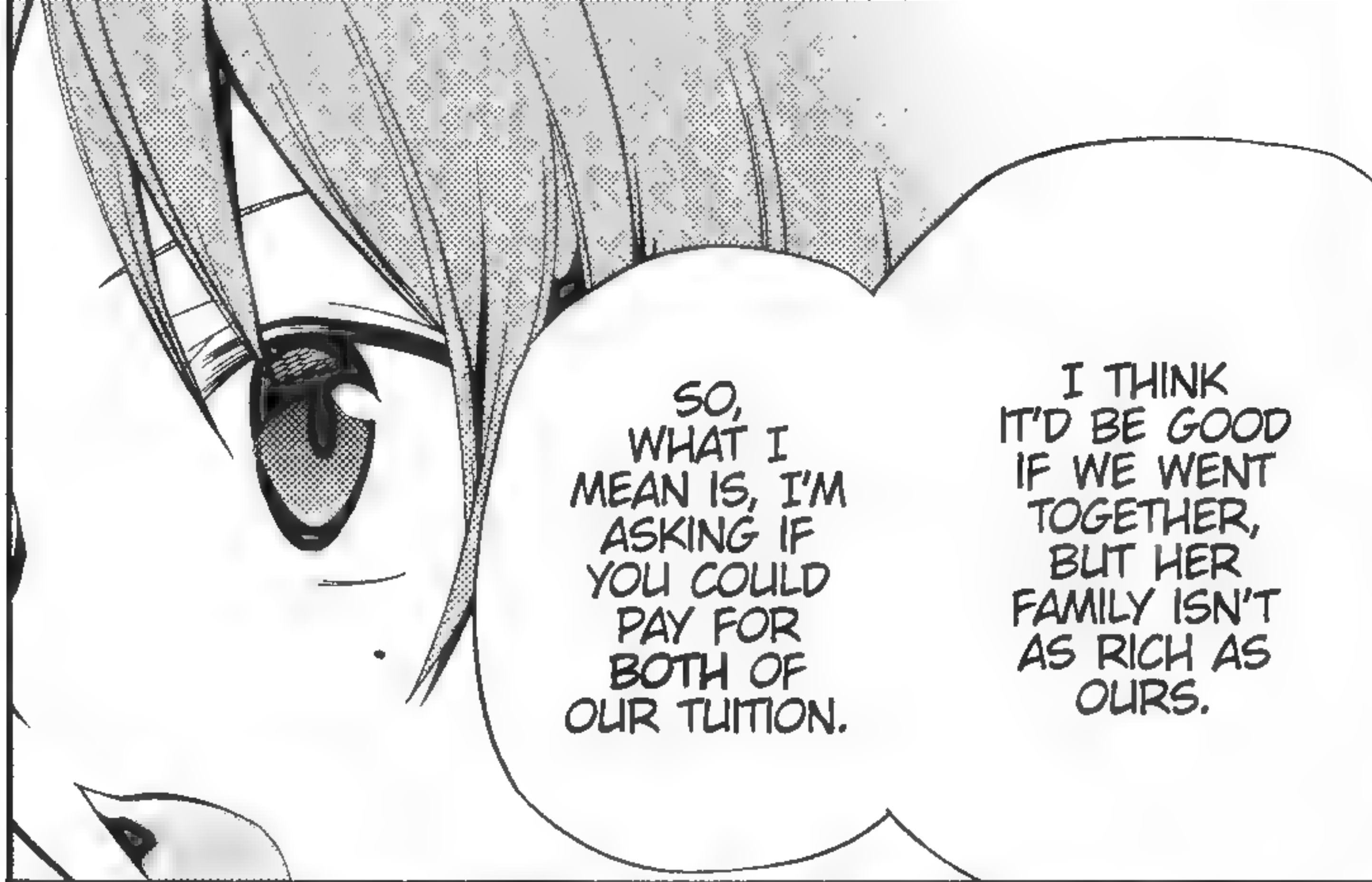
WOULD
IT BE ALL
RIGHT FOR
ME TO SAY
SOMETHING
A BIT
SELFISH?

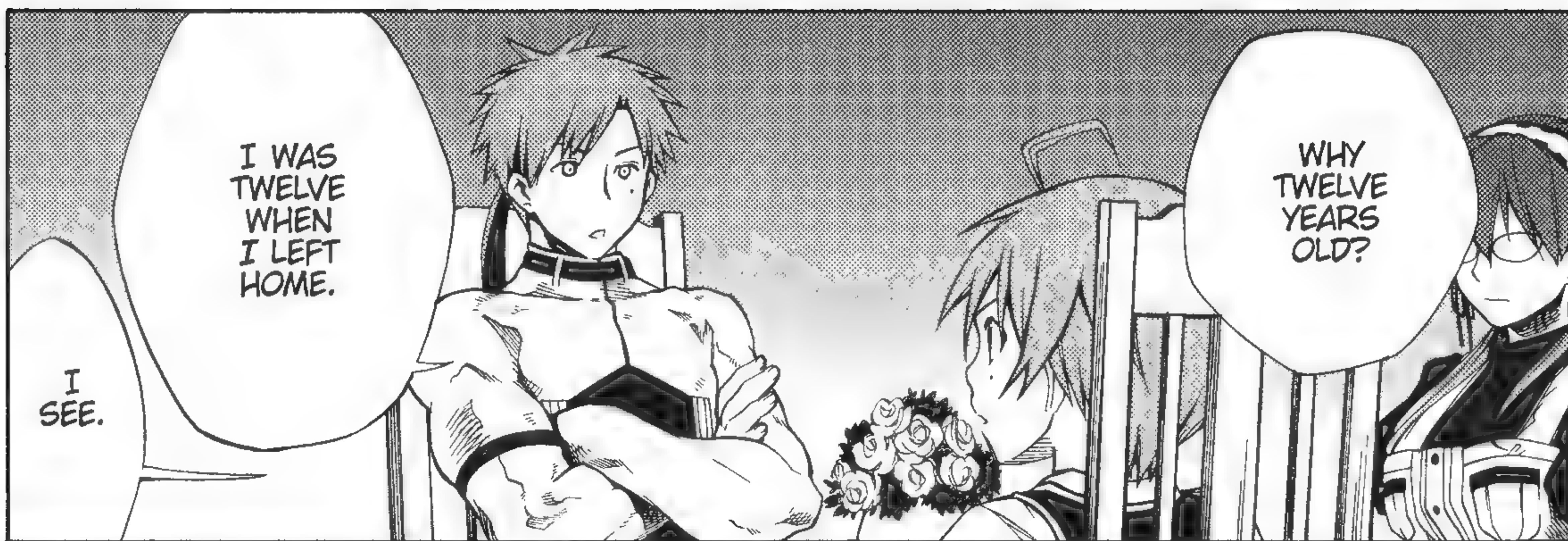


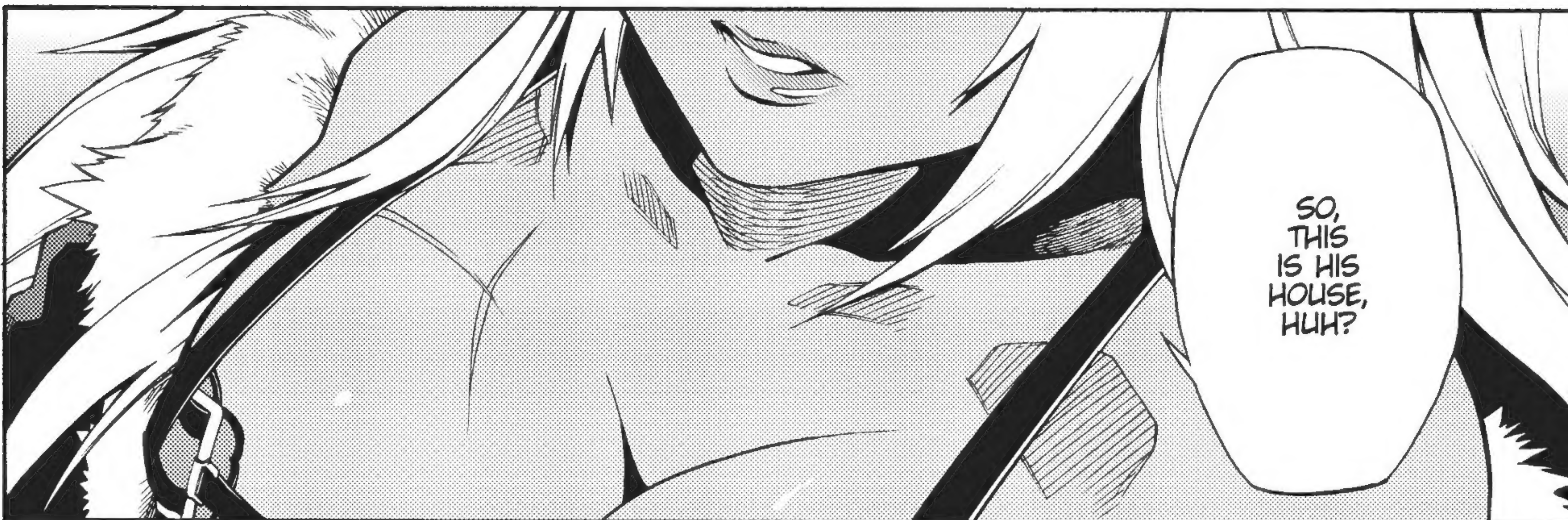
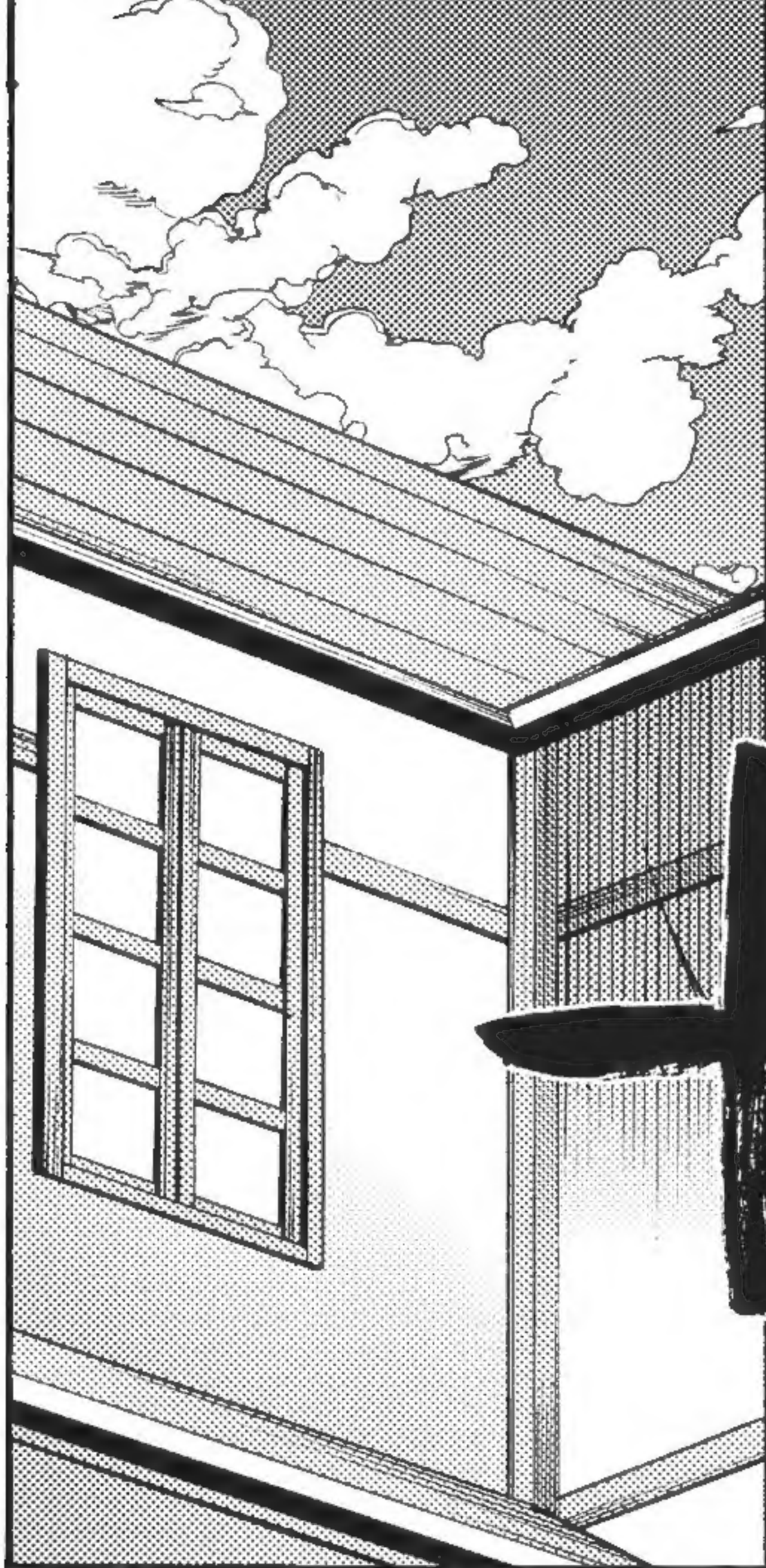
WELL, IT'S
JUST THAT
MY MAGIC
STUDIES HAVE
SLOWED TO
A HALT...

AND
BECAUSE
OF THAT, I'D
LIKE TO ATTEND
THE RANOA
UNIVERSITY
OF MAGIC.
BUT...













Mushoku Tensei

jobless reincarnation

To be continued in Vol.2—